

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD AND TEAM PLAYER AWARD

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I rise today to congratulate and recognize the outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award and Team Player Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, which is often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, teamwork, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities and skills that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the American public is better served because of them.

We recognize and honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided 350 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

Keith S. Brown, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Pamela L. Brown, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Mona S. Burnett, Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Ed Cassidy, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Mark Dobbins, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Daniel S. Hall, Office of the Clerk.

Patrick A. Hirsch, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Araceli Jennings, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Tara A. Kelley, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Timothy Magruder, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Charles E. Powell, Jr., Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Robin Richter, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

Randy Rogerson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

David Tonizzo, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate the House employees receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to an employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty for their organization throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Melissa K. Franger and John F. Looney, III, Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Kevin Hanrahan, Office of the Clerk.

Michael A. Howard, Office of Inspector General.

David E. McKittrick, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

And finally, we recognize and congratulate several House employees being presented the Team Player Award. This award recognizes the value the House Officers and Inspector General place on working collaboratively across House organizations to strengthen and protect the U.S. House of Representatives. These awardees have demonstrated a collaborative attitude, commitment to achieving team objectives, respect and support of their teammates, and dedication to the betterment of House operations. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this notable award.

Alison M. Trulock, Office of the Clerk.

Kevin C. Cornell and Donna K. Wolfgang, Office of Inspector General.

James J. Kaelin, Office of the Sergeant at Arms.

Kevin N. Chambers, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend our congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers, the Inspector General, and collaboratively across these organizations. Their long hours, hard work, and team spirit are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

15TH ANNIVERSARY OF WRITING ON AMERICA

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, last month we celebrated Viet Bao Daily News' 15th Anniversary of the Writing on America Essay Contest and its subsequent annual Awards program. Viet Bao Daily News established the Writing on America Essay Contest in 2000 with the simple mission of creating an opportunity for members of the Vietnamese community to share their individual experiences.

Since its creation, the competition has become an annual grand award celebration and a uniting chronicle sharing inspirational stories from members of the Vietnamese community. The initial objective of the competition was to preserve the Vietnamese language and cultural values. However, the impact exceeded Viet Bao's initial expectation. The tens of thousands of entries over the years have become more than just an anthology of shared, collective philosophical values—but a historical record helping to preserve the Vietnamese community's history across a broad spectrum ranging from tragedy to triumph.

I would like to congratulate all of the participants in the essay competition for sharing their varied stories of life and legacy, as well as congratulate all of the winners past and present. They have all contributed a multitude of inspirational stories that document and share with the whole community their experiences and journey to assimilate in American society.

I also want to congratulate and applaud Viet Bao Daily News for the success of their writing competition, not just for the community service the program brings to the Vietnamese community, but for what it contributes to the rich tapestry of our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE TOWN OF KOUTS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound admiration that I recognize the town of Kouts, Indiana, as it marks its 150th anniversary. In celebration of this special occasion, festivities were held in Kouts on August 22, 2015, which included a parade and commemoration ceremony coinciding with the town's annual Porkfest and the historic Aukiki Festival.

An idyllic sanctuary for rural life, Kouts has become the thriving community it is today due to one noble trait: perseverance. In 1865, when surveyors of the nearby Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and Saint Louis railroad sought lodging, they were denied at the first home they

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

came to and wandered onward to be accepted with hospitality at the second, where the Kouts family lived. Henceforth, the family name was given to the area as it expanded from the Kouts train station and was built into a prospering community by the surveyors. The village applied for incorporation three times, failing twice before Kouts' patience was rewarded in 1921, the same year electricity spread to the area.

Kouts has always been a town of industry, not in the sense of material production, but in the sense that the people of Kouts have always toiled with conviction and tenacity to create the lives they envision for themselves and to lift up their community as a civil microcosm worthy of respect.

It is a testament to the quality of the people of Kouts and their interest in supporting each member of the community that Blake Benson, an eighth grader at Kouts Middle School, has assumed the role of President of the town's Sesquicentennial Committee, performing the duties of his office with pride. In collaboration with his Committee, Blake has organized the joyous commemoration of this special day in Kouts history. For their devotion to their town's history and prosperity, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Benson, the Kouts Sesquicentennial Committee, and Kouts Clerk-Treasurer Laurie Tribble.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the 150th anniversary of the town of Kouts. The town's long history of harmonious cohabitations is inspiring and is worthy of our admiration.

HONORING ROBERT FISHER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Robert Fisher, who passed away on July 17 in Fairfax, California, at the age of 68. A nearly-lifelong Marin resident and community leader, he will be remembered for his unyielding efforts to better lives in Marin City and beyond.

From an early age, Mr. Fisher cared deeply about others. He moved to Marin City a year after his birth, and attended high school and college in the North Bay. He first ran for office at the age of 23, serving on the Sausalito-Marín City School District board and later, for the Marin City Community Services District board. He also worked as a student counselor at his alma mater, the College of Marin, and became an engineer by profession.

Mr. Fisher's efforts will continue to impact lives long after his passing. He was involved with the Marin City Health and Wellness Center, Bayside Martin Luther King Jr. School, and the recently-opened Rocky Graham Park. A new community center for Marin City—one of his dreams—has begun the planning process.

Robert Fisher's lifetime dedication to public service exemplifies an inspirational spirit of generosity and a model for others to follow. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to him today and express our deepest condolences to his wife, Agnes, his sister, Lue Ann, and his children.

EDITH GATES BRADY—100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, Edith's parents were William Earl and Marsha Susan Gates. She has one younger brother, Billy Duane, who resides in Texas.

Edith was born at 4:00 p.m. September 4, 1915, in the country outside of Peach Orchard, AR.

She moved from Peach Orchard, Arkansas to Michigan in 1925 at age 10. She graduated as Salutatorian from John J. Pershing High School.

She was married to Loyd Elvin Brady in the midst of the Great Depression on October 28, 1934, at the Hazel Park Baptist Tabernacle, Hazel Park, MI in a wedding dress costing \$13. She had 6 children, Roger Bryan, Kay Linda, Loyd (Bud) Elvin II, Dan Gregory, Robert Franklin and Kirk Allyn.

As the wife of a city manager she resided, entertained and attended public/political functions in Hazel Park, MI, Trinidad, CO, The Dalles, OR, Monrovia, CA and Santa Clara, CA, before her husband retired to raise cattle at the Sugarbush Ranch in Success, AR in 1963.

She has 13 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great grandchildren.

She was baptized into the Christian faith as a child and has been a member of the Success Baptist Church in Success, AR since 1963.

She became Deputy Treasurer of Western Clay County, Arkansas in 1968, in which capacity she served for 16 years.

Edith has family traveling from California, Texas, Georgia, and Michigan for the centennial celebration.

She loves celebrating events with her family, recollecting amusing stories/life lessons, following political commentary, reading western novels, and cheering for the St. Louis Cardinals.

She plans to wear high heels to her 100th birthday celebration.

HONORING THE INTERAGENCY CO- OPERATION THAT SAVED A LIFE

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Whatcom County Fire District 5, Whatcom County Sheriff's Department, Airlift Northwest, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) for working together to save the life of Hugh Graham, a Point Roberts visitor who went into cardiac arrest at the Port of Entry.

Early on June 7, Hugh and his friend Andy MacLean arrived in Point Roberts, having planned a bike ride. Immediately after passing through the Port of Entry on Tyee Drive, Hugh collapsed. Customs Agents began performing CPR, while a cardiac arrest call went out to the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department and Whatcom County Fire District 5.

The first responders worked on resuscitating Hugh using defibrillation and medication until he was stable. Hugh was then transported in an Airlift Northwest helicopter to PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Bellingham. The strong relationship between the CBP, Airlift Northwest, Fire District 5 and the Sheriff's Department was essential in ensuring the best possible outcome for Hugh, who has since returned home to fully recover.

Many thanks go to:

Whatcom County Fire District 5 personnel: Jerry Aguiar, Ben Boyko, Christian Craig, Jeff Finlay, Ryan Greene, Mark Puustelli, Fadi Samaha, John Shields, Kristy Steinberger, Christina Tersakian, Scott Van Den Boogaard, Kyle Whiteman

Whatcom County Sheriff Deputies:

Tom McCarthy, Jayson Loreen

Airlift Northwest members:

Bonita Haggith, Rose Goure, Rick Rathbun
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Agents:

Larry Tingley, Eddie Proctor, Timothy Johnson, Denton Glaser, Andrew Giles, Merritt Washburn, Christopher Barron, Robert Carter, Detlef Goellner

This situation is a great example of how our community benefits when agencies work together at all levels. I am thankful that these men and women are hard at work every single day to keep us safe and secure.

HONORING MOTHER VIRGINIA OLIVER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep respect and profound admiration that I congratulate Mother Virginia Oliver, a longtime resident of East Chicago, Indiana, on a momentous milestone, her 100th birthday, which she celebrated on August 31, 2015. Virginia was honored by family and friends at a very special Celebration of 100 Years of Life, which featured a commemorative luncheon. The following day, she was recognized during a special reception at her church, Greater First Baptist Church in East Chicago.

Mother Virginia Oliver arrived in East Chicago nearly seventy years ago, when she and her loving husband, the late Robert Oliver, relocated to Northwest Indiana in the mid-1940's to build a life together. Upon their arrival in the city, the couple resided in an apartment above the JPL Furniture Store located in the section of East Chicago known as the Harbor. It was during this time that Mr. and Mrs. Oliver welcomed two children, Robert and Sheryl, both proud graduates of East Chicago Roosevelt High School.

In 1953, Virginia and Robert purchased a home in the Calumet section of the city, where Virginia continues to reside. It was in this home that Mother Oliver raised her children. During this time, Virginia was fully involved in her children's educations and was an active member of the parent-teacher association.

While Mother Oliver was focused on raising her children, throughout her life she was also well known in the community as a skilled seamstress and beautician. After her children were grown, Virginia continued to serve her

community as a crossing guard for the School City of East Chicago. A further testament to her patriotism and her commitment to her city, she also served as a poll worker on election days.

A woman of tremendous faith, Mother Virginia Oliver has dedicated herself to serving her church community, first as a member of First Baptist Church where she sang in the choir and served as a secretary, and later at Greater First Baptist Church. Friends and family recall Mother Oliver's pride that Greater First Baptist Church "began in her home" after founding-pastor, Reverend P.C. Harrison, came to her home and convinced her husband, Deacon Robert Oliver, to join him in forming a new church. Deacon Oliver would go on to become the first and longest serving chairman of the Deacon Board, a position he held for thirty four years. At the first church meeting, Virginia was named as the church's Financial Secretary, which she faithfully served as for twenty seven years. Mother Oliver also has served her church as a deaconess, missionary, choir member, church decorator, and ultimately, church mother. She continues to serve as Greater First Baptist Church's oldest church mother.

Mr. Speaker, Mother Virginia Oliver has committed herself to her community and her church since she arrived in East Chicago, and has served as a mother and role model for many children throughout the years. She has taught every member of her family and her community the true meaning of service to others. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Mother Virginia Oliver a very happy 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH BURKO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Elizabeth Burko, who was a true and committed leader in the California State Parks who lost her life on August 22, 2015.

Elizabeth Burko was born in Ohio and attended college at the University of Colorado where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science before moving out to California.

She began her career as a volunteer docent at Año Nuevo State Reserve in 1985 where she was eventually hired on as a park aide. For 30 years, Burko dedicated her life and career to the mission and purpose of California State Parks. In 2007 she became the Superintendent of the Russian River District of California State Parks which includes parks in both Sonoma and Mendocino Counties.

Throughout her career Burko proved to be dedicated to the mission of the State Parks, but it was during the recession that she truly demonstrated the value of her leadership. Her management skills and creativity made it possible to avoid many park closures in the district and maintain the integrity of the State Parks mission. She was known for her willingness to collaborate with local non-profit groups in order to improve park access and management.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of Elizabeth Burko whose

contributions to the Russian River District of California State Parks will be valued by park visitors and staff alike for years to come. She will be greatly missed.

PAXSON "PACKY" H. OFFFIELD, CATALINA ICON PASSES

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, the community of Avalon, California was saddened to learn that Paxson "Packy" H. Offfield passed away on Sunday, June 14, due to complications from leukemia. He recently chose to return to his home in Michigan, and passed away there, with his wife and family by his side.

Mr. Offfield attended the Latin School of Chicago and the Catalina Island School for Boys, located in Toyon Bay. He graduated from the University of Denver in 1975 with a degree in Economics and then taught here at the Catalina Island School. In 1976, his family asked him to join the Santa Catalina Island Company, formed in 1894 and guided by the Wrigley and Offfield families since 1919. Beginning as property manager, Mr. Offfield gained experience in several departments, and served at various times as the company's chairman of the board, president, and CEO. He was a member of its Board of Directors from 1980 until his death.

Mr. Offfield was also chairman of the Benefactor Members of the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy, formed in 1972 by Philip K. Wrigley and Dorothy W. Offfield, and was the Conservancy's first chairman of the board.

A dedicated conservationist, Mr. Offfield was a director and chairman of The Billfish Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of billfish populations worldwide through scientific research, education and advocacy. He was a Board member and former chairman of The Peregrine Fund, a worldwide organization dedicated to preserving birds of prey. In 2006, Mr. Offfield received from the president of Panama the Commendador Award for work through the Peregrine Fund on the reintroduction of the Harpy Eagle, the national bird of Panama.

Mr. Offfield was also chairman of the Catalina Sea Bass Fund, dedicated to the restoration of sea bass and other fisheries in Southern California waters. He was active with the Conservation and Research for Endangered Species component of the San Diego Zoological Society. He was awarded the 2006 Conservation Medal from the Society for his work with the Peregrine Fund and satellite tagging of marlin. He also spearheaded a DNA sampling study with Rutgers University and The Billfish Foundation.

Mr. Offfield was very involved in developing satellite tags for tagging billfish in Pacific waters for over 20 years, to track migration and other data on billfish. He was the chairman of the Offfield Center for Billfish Studies and funded an archival tagging program for white sea bass in cooperation with the Pflieger Institute for Environmental Research. He was a founding member of the Marine Conservation Science Institute. Mr. Offfield was also a

director of USC's Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies and endowed the Paxson H. Offfield Professor of Population Ecology now held by Dennis Hedgecock at USC.

Mr. Offfield was president of the Offfield Family Foundation, which works predominantly on environmental issues around the world. He has worked with the Little Traverse Conservancy to protect the arboreal forests of Northern Michigan. He was a past president and board member of the Silver Creek Fishing Club in Northern Michigan.

Mr. Offfield was named to the International Game Fish Association Board of Trustees in 2007 and currently served as its chairman. He shared its belief in the conservation of game fish and the promotion of responsible, ethical angling practices through science, education, rule making and record keeping. He was inducted into the IGFA Hall of Fame in 2011.

In Avalon, Mr. Offfield was a past president and member of the Avalon Tuna Club, the world's oldest sportfishing club and was the current president of the Tuna Club Foundation. He had in the past served as Chairman of the Avalon Planning Commission and as president of the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce. The Tuna Club had twice recognized him as Angler of the Year, and he had three Tuna Club record fish using three-thread linen and 8-pound Dacron. Mr. Offfield also participated in the International Masters Angling Invitational Tournament in Cancun.

Mr. Offfield is survived by his wife, Susan, his children, Chase (Lena), Calen (Amber) and Kelsey, his stepson, Rex, three grandchildren (Christian, Owen and Capri) and his brother, James Offfield. A celebration of life will be held in Avalon later in the summer.

HONORING CPL. TIMOTHY GRACE, 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION SOLDIER OF THE YEAR

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, the First District of Texas has been blessed as the birthplace of many remarkable individuals who have made notable contributions that have enriched lives well beyond the borders of Texas. It is a great pleasure to stand in honor of a man from Nacogdoches, Texas, who is young in terms of years but exceedingly senior when it comes to his patriotism, his caring, and his contribution to the ongoing of this country. His name is Corporal Timothy Grace and he has been named Soldier of the Year for the United States Army's 1st Infantry Division.

Cpl. Grace enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2013 at the age of 22, pursuing a dream born out of a family legacy of military service. Inspired by his grandfather Leo Acosta who served during World War II, Cpl. Grace knew as a young boy that the military would be his future. His heartfelt desire was to serve and protect the greatest country in the history of the world, precisely as his grandfather had done.

Cpl. Grace entered the military as a 19-Delta Cavalry Scout attached to the 1st Infantry Division in Fort Riley, Kansas. Regarding basic training, Cpl. Grace has remarked, ". . . I've always been mentally strong so they

never really broke me down. I enjoyed every minute of it and learned a lot.”

Cpl. Grace studied a variety of topics from weapons to Army history in preparation for the demanding process of facing the selection boards in anticipation of seeking advancement in his chosen endeavor. He first won the troop board, successfully navigated the squadron and brigade boards, ultimately culminating with his being named Soldier of the Year for the entire 1st Infantry Division.

As a result of his selection as Soldier of the Year, Cpl. Grace was chosen to provide personal security for the 1st Infantry Division Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Grinston in Iraq.

Based on his extraordinary history in the military thus far, there should be no doubt that Cpl. Grace will continue to distinguish himself as he pursues Airborne school and Ranger school. After his sterling career in the military is completed, Cpl. Grace aspires to yet again continue to serve his country and particularly the great state of Texas as a Department of Public Safety Highway Patrolman, but has not ruled out the possibility of serving as long as possible in his career within the United States Army.

It is a distinct privilege to honor this remarkable soldier, to pay tribute to him for his being named Soldier of the Year from the entire 1st Infantry Division, and to congratulate him for his upcoming promotion to sergeant. His accomplishments are now recorded in this CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

HONORING THE CAREER OF LINDA CHIARENZA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the distinguished career and legacy of service of Linda Chiarenza, who was honored for her professional excellence as the Executive Director of the West Side and Black Rock-Riverside Neighborhood Housing Services at a Retirement Celebration on August 26, 2015.

In 1999, Linda was selected as the Executive Director of the West Side Neighborhood Housing Services (WSNHS) where she had worked as a Housing Specialist for 4 years. Linda immediately got to work rebuilding relationships with funding sources, expanding resources and engaging the WSNHS Board and staff to work collaboratively and creatively to lead this critically important non-profit agency to national recognition as part of the NeighborWorks network.

This year brought an Exemplary rating for WSNHS by NeighborWorks America, and it is deservedly proud of its designation as a NeighborWorks Green Organization.

From her first project on Shield Street to the revitalization of Connecticut Street to restoring a historic West Side property, Linda continually demonstrated dogged determination and an unshakeable commitment to neighborhood revitalization led by community stakeholders.

Linda's devotion of time, energy and resources to support the community was deservedly recognized by Business First with the 2009 Women of Influence Award and the 2007

and 2015 Woman of the Year Award by the West Side Business and Taxpayers Association. Her work with all levels of government earned her recognition as a New York State Woman of Distinction and the FBI Board of Directors Service Award.

During her time with West Side Neighborhood Housing Services, Linda accomplished significant milestones for the organization, including a merger with Black Rock-Riverside Neighborhood Housing Services, leading to a working partnership with West Side Neighborhood Housing Services sharing staff and services, and now serving as lead agency for housing rehab throughout the city of Buffalo. On June 10th of this year, West Side NHS and Black Rock NHS celebrated 35 years of service and another milestone of achievement was acknowledged on the recognition of its Executive Director who will leave a community better than when she arrived and clearly better prepared to continue to grow and thrive each and every day.

While Linda worked for the community, it is well known that her children and grandchildren are her world. We extend our best wishes and gratitude to her son John and daughter-in-law Maria, her daughter Nicole and son-in-law Jeff, and her seven grandchildren Vinny, Alexa, Johnny, Madeline, Jack, Jeff and Addison. I am especially grateful for her friendship, invaluable guidance and leadership ability that led to remarkable growth in neighborhood reinvestment, expanded services and stronger partnerships.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor the career of Linda Chiarenza. I ask that my colleagues join me in expressing our congratulations on a well-earned retirement, and to celebrate the exemplary work she did to enrich the communities of Western New York.

RECOGNIZING THE GOKASHO, JAPAN “PEACE MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMITTEE” AND A WWII ARMY AIR CORPS CREW THAT PERISHED NEAR TAKACHIHO, GOKASHO WHOSE LIVES THEY COMMEMORATE ANNUALLY

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the “Peace Memorial Monument Committee” of the Gokasho region of Japan which, since 1995, has honored the lives of a World War II U.S. Army Air Corps crew that perished near the local town of Takachiho.

On August 30th, 1945, an American B-29 Bomber with twelve Army Air Corps crew members on board clipped the peak of the Oyaji mountain in Takachiho. The bomber was on a mission to the Allied POW detention center at Kaitanko of Miyawaka, Fukuoka to air drop relief supplies. The ensuing crash left no survivors. The crew members' bodies were retrieved by the U.S. military with the help of the citizens of Takachiho.

The names of the flight crew members that perished are Alfred Eiken of Missouri, Henry Baker of Tennessee, Jack Riggs of Kansas,

George Williamson of Pennsylvania, John Cornwell of Texas, Henry Frees of Illinois, Solomon Groner of New York, Walter Gustevson of Pennsylvania, Norman Henninger of Ohio, John Hodges, Jr. of Virginia, John Dangerfield of Utah, and Bob Miller of Utah.

In 1995, the “Peace Memorial Monument Committee,” which is organized by the people of the Gokasho region of Japan, constructed the Peace Memorial Monument to honor this Army Air Corps crew as well as that of a Japanese Army Fighter jet “Hayabusa” which crashed in a nearby mountain town. A memorial ceremony has been held each year since 1995 to commemorate these two tragedies and pray for continued peace and friendship between the United States and Japan. The ceremony is held on the Saturday in August nearest to August 30th, the date of the American crash.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled to have the privilege of recognizing these fallen warriors, as well as the act of commitment to peace and friendship by the people of the Gokasho region that has flourished from this tragedy.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Gokasho “Peace Memorial Monument Committee,” and the twelve American Air Corps crew members whose lives they have not forgotten.

HONORING LORRAINE “LORRIE” LEWIS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lorrie Lewis, who passed away this August in Novato, California, at the age of 72. A lifelong advocate for people with developmental disabilities, Mrs. Lewis was defined by her radiant warmth, focused passion, and unrelenting selfless actions.

Calling Mrs. Lewis an inspiration does not capture her complete dedication to helping others. After managing a group home in the North Bay with her husband, Jim, the couple co-founded the Institute for Abundant Living (IAL) in 1995. Since then, the Institute has provided educational opportunities to people living with developmental disabilities, pushing them to achieve more academically and equipping them with skills to succeed personally and professionally.

I can attest to the hard work and enthusiasm of both staff and students through my firsthand observations when visiting the Institute for Abundant Living over the years. The organization plays an important role in the North Bay and has touched innumerable lives in its two decades of operation. Marin County was truly lucky to count Mrs. Lewis as an activist and neighbor.

Mrs. Lewis was active in her faith community and loved nothing more than being with her family. She will be missed far beyond those circles, however, as her unyielding efforts will continue to impact our community for years to come. It is therefore appropriate that we pay tribute to her today and express our deepest condolences to Jim, her sons Andy and Kirt Lewis, and her grandchildren.

HONORING SANDRA WILLIAMS BUSH AND RECOGNIZING HER DEDICATION TO HELPING OTHERS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Ms. Sandra Williams Bush for her outstanding commitment to service as well as the sharing of knowledge, culture, and community. Sandra Bush is the recipient of the Buffalo Association of Black Social Workers, Inc. Community Service Award; the Black Chamber of Commerce of WNY Beverly Gray Community Service Award, the GROUP Ministries, Inc. Community Achievement Award, the Harriet Tubman Community Service Award, the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. William Wells Brown Community Service Award, and Community Service Recognition from the City of Buffalo Common Council Community.

Sandra Bush, the daughter of Willis and Evelyn Williams, was born in Buffalo and grew up attending schools within the Buffalo school system. She continued her education, earning a Human Services degree from Medaille College and a Masters of Library Science degree from the University of Buffalo School of Information and Library Science. Her well-rounded education only strengthened her passion to help others. In August of 1985, Sandra began her career with the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library as a clerk with the Department of Extension Services. A few years later, she decided to pursue a degree in library science, and in 1991 she received her certification as a public librarian. Her career also included working with the RAM Van, Lookie Bookie, the Bookmobile and other several city branch libraries.

Sandra is retiring as the first Branch Manager of the Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library. There she oversaw the care of the largest resource center of African and African American history in central and western New York. Beyond maintaining the collection, she worked tirelessly to incorporate the community with quality library service, programming and outreach efforts.

She credits strong family support along with encouragement from the community for her achievements. Friends and family joined Sandra Bush for her retirement party on August 21, 2015 at the Frank Merriweather Library between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize Ms. Sandra Williams Bush. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Bush on an accomplished career and to commend her for her admirable work within the Buffalo library system and community.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAPANTOWN SAN JOSÉ (NIHONMACHI)

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Representatives ZOE LOFGREN and ANNA ESHOO to honor the 125th Anniversary of the establishment of Japantown San José (Nihonmachi) in Santa Clara Valley. Nihonmachi is a reflection of the values of the original Japanese immigrant community, the Issei (first generation), who settled in Santa Clara Valley in 1890. By the early 20th century, the community formally established residence in what is now Nihonmachi, which offered a uniquely Japanese source of employment, lodging, goods, services, and cultural support. Nihonmachi is one of only three remaining Japantowns in the United States today.

Soon after the founding of Nihonmachi, with the support of the Gentlemen's Agreement of 1907, an increased number of Japanese women began settling in Santa Clara Valley. This led to the growth of families and the birth of the Nisei (second generation) of Nihonmachi residents.

Nihonmachi witnessed its first national tragedy as the Great Depression enveloped the United States. However, despite national economic hardship, Nihonmachi experienced slow, yet steady economic growth. Nihonmachi further strengthened its presence in the region by welcoming other Asian communities, serving as a cultural refuge for Chinese and Filipino immigrants. This cultural diversity among the residents of Nihonmachi allowed the neighborhood to withstand the turmoil of World War II, as well as the forced internment of Japanese Americans in 1942.

After the post-war return of the Japanese American community to the West Coast and Santa Clara Valley, Nihonmachi became a haven for residents against the simmering anti-Japanese sentiment and national racial hysteria. Despite the open adversity faced by Nihonmachi, its population nearly doubled in size due to the addition of Sansei (third generation) by the end of the 1940s.

Through the late 1960s and into the 1970s the Nisei were caring not only for the aging Issei and growing Sansei, but were also determined to preserve Japanese culture and combat the widespread acculturation of their community into mainstream American culture. It was during the 1970s that the Sansei embarked on a path of political activism set on sparking a renewal of Nihonmachi through cultural awareness.

Since the 1980s, Nihonmachi has experienced a period of revitalization, including the building of new commercial and residential development, including projects on land that had once been a neighboring Chinatown. Furthermore, the installation of historical markers and plaques around the neighborhood commemorate the cultural history and achievements of Nihonmachi.

Currently, the Yonsei and Gosei (fourth and fifth generations) play a vital role in the international dialogue between Nihonmachi and Japan as well as the continued preservation of Japanese culture brought to Santa Clara Val-

ley by the Issei 125 years ago. For instance, in 2013, the Japantown Business Association sponsored fundraising events to provide aid and support to victims of the Tohoku tsunami and earthquake in Japan.

Mr. Speaker, we commend Japantown San José for its 125 years of dedication to the preservation of Japanese culture in the increasingly diverse Santa Clara Valley. As one of only three remaining Japantowns in the United States, Nihonmachi's contributions to the cultural preservation of the Japanese American community and its commitment to cultural and economic development of the region serve as a national example of what can be accomplished by uniting communities and working toward positive change, diversity, and mutual respect.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED JAMES C. "BUCK" SMITH

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved James C. "Buck" Smith, who passed away peacefully in his home after a long battle with Alzheimer's on August 11, 2015. A longtime resident of Fort Walton Beach and former City Councilman, Buck had a deep love for his family and community, and his contributions, especially the impact on youth in the area, will be remembered.

Born on January 7, 1936 in Columbus, Georgia to Red and Myrtis Clements Smith, Buck and his siblings moved to Florida's Gulf Coast following his mother's passing. Buck, who had a love for sports, which remained with him throughout his life, played football at Choctawhatchee High School, where he graduated Class of 1955, as well as played at Holmes Junior College in Mississippi.

Upon his return home to Fort Walton Beach, Buck became an active member of the community. As a small businessman, Buck started Smith's Plumbing, Randall's Nursery, and Bucran Corporation. As a leader in the civic arena, he was elected to serve the area he loved as Fort Walton Beach City Councilman from 1983 to 1991. Buck also was a member of the Shriners and was a Free Mason.

It was his passion for community and its youth, however, to whom he dedicated much of his life, by which many will remember Buck. He was instrumental in securing the Fort Walton Beach High School's field house and baseball field, as well as preparing the tennis courts for action at Bruner Middle School. He strongly advocated for the need of a vocational school in the area, helped found the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in Okaloosa County and the All Sports Association, which he was inducted into its Hall of Fame in 2004. Whether it was growing the love of softball in the area by starting a men's slow pitch softball team, which competed at National's in 1973; attending high school football games and cheering on players; or supporting Little League teams; Buck was inspired by the character and camaraderie built as a result of participating in organized sports. He believed in

the youth and was dedicated to ensuring that they were afforded the opportunity to become involved.

Without question, Buck lived a life full of love and giving back to those around him. He was a friend and mentor to countless individuals and one of the area youth's biggest fans. To his family, however, he will most be remembered as a loving husband, father, and grandfather, a great man who they were blessed to have as their own and share with the Northwest Florida community.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of James C. "Buck" Smith. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife of 44 years, Billie; daughter, Tina and her husband, Ryan; granddaughters Amber and Ryleigh; brother, Rocky; sisters, Connie, Debbie, Sonya, and Rita; and all of the Smith family.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRESCOTT AREA WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE COMMISSION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the silver anniversary and 25 years of dedicated service of the Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission (PAWUIC).

In 1989, Ed Hollenshead and Coy Jemmett of the Prescott National along with Prescott Fire Department's Ron Prince and Darrell Willis originally conceived the idea of an organization where community leaders were involved in combating issues in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). These conversations evolved into a task force known as the Interagency Fire and Emergency Management Group. A year later, The Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission was officially formed on September 7, 1990 when a memorandum of understanding was signed by PAWUIC, the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Central Yavapai Fire District, Arizona State Land Department and the Prescott National Forest.

In 2001, Prescott was selected as one of seven communities in the United States to participate in the National Fire Protection Association's Firewise Communities program. This distinction resulted from Prescott having a strong, citizen-led commission on WUI issues.

Today, there are approximately 30 Firewise certified communities in and around Prescott protecting more than 12,000 properties and representing more than half of all Firewise communities in the State of Arizona.

I am proud to honor the Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission for their valuable contributions towards preventing dangerous wildfires and combating other wildland urban interface issues. At a time in our nation's history when catastrophic wildfires are devastating the West and have burned nearly 9 million acres this year alone, we must embrace commonsense and worthwhile efforts

that encourage active forest management. As a native Arizonan, I am personally thankful for the hard work and dedication that this commission has set forth by empowering so many citizen volunteers.

HONORING COL. JAMES ISAAC WHEELER

HON. MARTHA MCSALLY

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Col. James Isaac Wheeler, who passed away on August 24, 2015 at the age of 93.

Col. Wheeler was an exceptional pilot who served his country with honor in three different conflicts—World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Over his career in the Air Force, he piloted the P-47 "Thunderbolt," F-86, and C-47.

Upon his retirement, Col. Wheeler continued to serve his community and fellow airmen, holding numerous leadership positions in veterans organizations in Tucson. He was stoutly devoted to his fellow veterans and serving the Southern Arizona community he called home.

I met Col. Wheeler as a young captain after arriving at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in 1994. He became a great friend over the years and always encouraged me in my journey as a pilot, officer, and, most recently, Congresswoman. He was such a wonderful example of continued faithful service to the community, Air Force, and military members and family. He was a patriot and true servant leader, and I am so grateful for his example and friendship.

Few can say they answered the call to serve and defend our country as often, and during such critical times, as Col. Wheeler. It was my honor to have known and served with him, and I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE AND SELFLESS SACRIFICE OF TECHNICAL SERGEANT TIMOTHY A. OFFICER, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with both profound sadness and deep gratitude that I rise to pay tribute to a fallen decorated American hero. On Monday, August 3, 2015, Technical Sergeant Timothy A. Officer, Jr., of the 24th Special Operations Wing, located in Florida's First Congressional District, tragically lost his life during a military freefall training accident. TSgt Officer was 32 years old, but lived a lifetime marked by and full of service.

Timothy was born to Timothy and Linda Officer on August 8, 1982 in Huntington, West Virginia. After graduating high school, he followed in his family's footsteps of service and joined the Air Force in 2001. Upon becoming

a Tactical Air Control Party Journeyman and ultimately a Joint Terminal Attack Controller, TSgt Officer earned his stripes as one of our Nation's most elite, both in training and in the ultimate crucible of combat. With multiple deployments around the globe and specifically in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM, TSgt Officer's leadership and devotion to duty served his fellow airmen and our Nation well over his prestigious fourteen-year career.

Among his many awards and accolades are two Bronze Stars, one with Valor Device, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, Combat Readiness Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with three oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Iraq Campaign Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, among many others.

One fateful night in Iraq, on March 31, 2003, while serving as a Tactical Air Command and Control Journeyman in support of the 1st Armored Division, TSgt Officer and his unit were engaged by enemy mortar, artillery, and direct fire. After an artillery shell exploded near his vehicle, then Airman Officer engaged the enemy, killing two, while coordinating close air support. When his crew ran out of ammunition, the citation for his Bronze Star with Valor reads, "He voluntarily dismounted his vehicle, ran across the battlefield through a hail of small arms fire to another vehicle, and returned with enough ammunition for his entire crew." Then Airman Officer assisted in the delivery of air support, resulting in 55 enemy killed. As the citation concludes, "His tremendous bravery under constant enemy fire undoubtedly saved his fellow crewmembers along with countless members of task force 2-70, and directly aided in the defeat of the enemy."

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of man we lost on August 3, 2015. Described as honest and loyal, he truly was a significant role model for those who knew him, not just by his words but by his actions. Adding more weight to our hearts, TSgt Officer is the second son and brother his family lays to rest upon the altar of freedom. His younger brother, Army Sergeant Justin Officer, tragically fell on the battlefield of Afghanistan while serving with the 101st Airborne on September 29, 2010. There are no words I, this body of Congress, or the Nation can say that might assuage the bereavement of the Officer family, as they endure the unendurable yet again. All I can say is on behalf of a humble and grateful Nation, we thank them for the love, counsel, guidance, and support given to Timothy and Justin, which helped make them the heroes they became. Their lives stand as a testament that freedom is not free, and their legacies will echo in time as examples of the ultimate sacrifice for all free people. My wife, Vicki, joins me in praying that God is with Timothy's parents, Timothy and Linda; his sister Kylea; and all of his family and friends during this time of great mourning, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO THE REMARKABLE
LIFE OF AMELIA PLATTS BOYNTON ROBINSON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the extraordinary life and legacy of an American treasure and one of my personal heroes, the courageous Mrs. Amelia Platts Boynton Robinson. Amelia passed away on August 26, 2015 at the age of 104. While we mourn the loss of this remarkable woman, I am comforted in knowing that her brave spirit will live through her impactful contributions to this nation.

Amelia was a key figure in the voting rights movement in Selma, Alabama and she is often remembered for her historic role as one of the coordinators and marchers on "Bloody Sunday." On that solemn day on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Amelia was savagely beaten and a photo of her taken shortly after she was attacked became a powerful symbol of the injustices suffered by those fighting on the frontlines of the movement.

Yet this fearless revolutionary continued her work as a leader on the frontlines of securing the right to vote for all Americans. She was undeterred by the perils of a racially unjust society that relegated blacks to second-class citizenship. Her story is a testament to her commitment to serving as a conduit for change and a reminder of why we in Alabama lovingly refer to her as the matriarch of the movement.

Amelia was born on August 18, 1911 in Savannah, Georgia. Her mother was an activist during the women's suffrage movement. After the passage of the 19th amendment, she and her mother distributed voter registration information to women from the family's horse and buggy in 1920. Her mother's tireless efforts to secure the right to vote for women would have a lasting impact on Amelia. It also paved the way for the young activist to claim her own place in American history.

Fueled by that same passion, Amelia began her own service to mankind when she and her husband Samuel Boynton fought for voting rights and property ownership for African-Americans in the poorest rural areas of Alabama. She was later named the only female lieutenant to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the civil rights movement. In this role, Amelia traveled alongside Dr. King and often appeared in his stead for various events and gatherings during the movement.

Amelia is also best known for her leadership that led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Amelia was such an integral part of the process that the contents of the bill were drafted at her kitchen table in Selma.

On May 5, 1964, Amelia broke yet another barrier when she became the first woman in the state of Alabama to run for a congressional seat. She garnered 10.7 percent of the vote during a time when very few blacks were registered voters. Her historic run further solidified her impact on the movement for human rights in Alabama.

When this extraordinary woman wasn't contributing her time to the causes of her generation, she worked as an educator, a home demonstrations agent with the Department of Agriculture, an insurance agent, an income tax

preparer, and a real estate agent. She attended Georgia State Industrial School, which was renamed Savannah State University and Tuskegee Normal, which is now known as Tuskegee University.

Without her courageous campaign for the 7th Congressional District, I know that my election to this seat in 2010 would not have been possible. Her sacrifices paved the way for me to walk the halls of Congress and I will carry my love and admiration for her in my heart each and every day. I will always cherish the time we spent together when she honored me as my special guest for the State of the Union on January 20, 2015. I am grateful for the memories of her greeting President Obama that night and I am so blessed to have called her a beloved mentor and friend.

As she reminded us in life, there is still much work to be done for this nation to live up to its ideals of equality and justice for all. Let us be inspired by the extraordinary life of Amelia to keep striving and working towards a more perfect union. May we honor her by continuing her life's work. I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Mrs. Platts Amelia Boynton Robinson, an Alabama gem and an American treasure. Thank you.

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE AND SELFLESS SACRIFICE OF TECHNICAL SERGEANT MARTY B. BETTELYOUN

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with both profound sadness and deep gratitude that I rise to pay tribute to a fallen decorated American hero. On Monday, August 3, 2015, Technical Sergeant Marty B. Bettelyoun of the 24th Special Operations Wing, located in Florida's First Congressional District, tragically lost his life during a military freefall training accident. TSgt Bettelyoun was 35 years old, but lived a lifetime marked by and full of service.

Born to Sonny and Christina Bettelyoun on October 18, 1979 in Eugene, Oregon, TSgt Bettelyoun graduated from Oregon City High School. After graduation, he answered the call and joined the Air Force in 2000. Enduring one of the most challenging training pipelines the United States military has to offer, TSgt Bettelyoun earned his stripes as one of our Nation's most elite. As a lead instructor in Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape, and later as a Combat Controller with multiple training and combat deployments around the globe, TSgt Bettelyoun's leadership and devotion to duty served thousands of airmen and our Nation well throughout his prestigious fifteen-year career.

Among his many awards and accolades are the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Meritorious Unit Award with four oak leaf clusters, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with four oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Ribbon Long, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, Air

Force Longevity Service Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters, USAF Noncommissioned Officer Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster, and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

By all accounts, TSgt Bettelyoun was the consummate leader and selfless warrior in his professional life as well as his personal life. Described by close friends as being able to walk into a room of strangers and leave their friend, TSgt Bettelyoun surely lived a full, albeit too brief, life. A dedicated family man, it remains clear his family was the most important aspect in this young patriot's life. With five children to his beloved wife, Jennifer, TSgt Bettelyoun and Jennifer took in a young cousin as their own, after the cousin's parents tragically passed away.

Mr. Speaker, this is the type of man we lost on August 3, 2015. There are no words I, this body of Congress, or the Nation can say that might assuage the bereavement of the Bettelyoun family and the six children Marty leaves behind. All I can say is on behalf of a humble and grateful Nation, we thank them for the love, counsel, guidance, and support given to Marty, which helped make him the hero he became both in uniform and as a father. His life stands as a testament that freedom is not free, and his legacy will echo in time as an example of the ultimate sacrifice for all free people. My wife, Vicki, joins me in praying that God be with Marty's wife, Jennifer; his children Kalyn, Olivia, Benjamin, Isabella, and Mollie; his parents, Sonny and Christina; brothers Luke and Adam; Stepmother Sharon and Stepfather Jim; and all family and friends during this time of great mourning, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and congratulate the Humane Society of Fairfax County for reaching the grand old age of 50, and, perhaps more impressively, for spending those years caring for the animals of Virginia's 8th District.

The Humane Society of Fairfax County was established by concerned citizens in 1965 in order to pursue the three-fold mission of promoting humane education, preventing all forms of cruelty to animals—both domestic and wild—by every legitimate means available, and assisting the community with all matters pertaining to the welfare of animals.

In furtherance of this mission, the HSFC provides numerous different services for both the animals and people within its community. The HSFC accepts and cares for all animals in need—dogs and cats of course, but also birds, rabbits, gerbils, and more. They care for animals that have been given up by their families and for animals from overwhelmed and kill shelters. They help military families that have special needs in regard to caring for their animals and they provide emergency medical treatment for animals from families that wouldn't otherwise be able to afford such care.

They provide spay and neuter services for community cats and run a pet food pantry to assist families during financial difficulties.

They do all of this, which would be impressive enough on its own, and yet the HSFC goes even further—they have made a conscious decision not to simply fix the problems that come their way, but to also seek out unaddressed problems and resolve them. They have been involved with legislative issues such as ensuring adequate shelter and veterinary care for animals and stopping the operation of rodeos and circuses. They employ investigators that, for over 40 years, have investigated thousands of cruelty and neglect cases. Finally, they have assisted with the Deer Spay Project for the past 2 years.

I hope I have made it as clear to you as it is to me that the Humane Society of Fairfax County is an outstanding, upstanding organization that has done more than can here be described for the animals and families in their community. I thank them for their valuable work and wish them many more happy anniversaries to come.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL CHARLES
EDWARD COOKE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant and outstanding citizen, Colonel Charles Edward Cooke. Sadly, Colonel Cooke passed away on Sunday, August 2, 2015. Funeral services were held on Monday, August 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Andersonville National Cemetery in Andersonville, Georgia.

Colonel Cooke devoted nearly three decades of his life to protecting his country in the United States Marine Corps, an unwavering responsibility for which we are all greatly indebted. In his 31 years of duty, he was stationed in nine states and eleven countries. Though his responsibilities carried him across the globe, Colonel Cooke always enjoyed returning to his birthplace of Plains, Georgia and hometown of Americus, Georgia.

Throughout his career, Colonel Cooke impacted the lives of thousands of young service men and women who served under him. For his outstanding leadership he was awarded the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Gold Star, and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Beyond these achievements and the respect held for him by Marines everywhere, he was an honorable human being who loved deeply and, in return, was deeply loved.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps in 2004, Colonel Cooke worked for Northrup Grumman as an Information Assurance Specialist. His co-workers and fellow servicemen cherished the smile and booming laugh of a man with seasoned wisdom and a passion for reveling in the beauties of life. After 7 years, he retired to full-time community service with organizations such as the Semper Fi Community Task Force and Meals on Wheels.

Colonel Cooke was a resolute steward of Christ's message. His faith and spirituality al-

ways reminded those around him of the power of love and fellowship through Christ and his Church. He earned a Certificate of Biblical Studies from the Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Institute of Biblical Studies and served as deacon of First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Virginia for four years.

Colonel Cooke is survived by his wife of 44 years, Wilma; daughter, Mary; siblings Oscar, Josie, Lula May, Carrie, and Barbara; six grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District salute Colonel Charles Cooke for his dedicated service to our nation and to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Colonel Cooke's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING MR. VU VAN LOC FOR
HIS SERVICE TO SANTA CLARA
COUNTY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished member of my community, Mr. Vu Van Loc. Mr. Vu has been a leader in Santa Clara County for nearly forty years. As the founder of the Immigrant Resettlement & Cultural Center, Mr. Vu provided essential resettlement services to Vietnamese refugees immediately after the Fall of Saigon and for decades following. He pioneered the historical preservation of the journey of the Vietnamese Boat People when he created the Viet Museum in San Jose, which displays their journey.

Mr. Vu was born in 1933 in Nam Dinh, North Vietnam. He became a Lieutenant upon graduation from the Dalat academy in 1954. During the Vietnam War, he held multiple leadership positions in the South Vietnam Army, including Colonel Director for the General Logistics Department.

After the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, Vu Van Loc came to the United States and settled in San Jose, California. Shortly after his arrival, Mr. Vu began working with the Indochinese Resettlement & Cultural Center, or IRCC, to assist immigrants arriving from Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos who were beginning to settle in Northern California. The Social Planning Committee of Santa Clara County created the IRCC as a temporary office in 1976, but it was Mr. Vu who spearheaded IRCC's efforts and ensured the organization's mission was fulfilled in the decades that followed.

Over forty years, Mr. Vu built the IRCC as a community-based organization to serve Vietnamese immigrants in resettlement. Due to his efforts, IRCC, which changed its name to the Immigrant Resettlement & Cultural Center in the 1990s, has provided over 20,000 immigrants with access to resettlement services, such as ESL classes, job training programs, housing assistance, U.S. citizenship applica-

tion assistance, and voter registration information.

Mr. Vu's work with the IRCC has also ensured that the history of the Vietnam War, and the sacrifice of many South Vietnamese soldiers, is not forgotten. In 1993, Mr. Vu gathered contributions to help restore the abandoned Bien Hoa Military Cemetery in Vietnam. With this support he helped ensure the Vietnamese government would not destroy the site as it had other military cemeteries.

Mr. Vu also had a vision for the creation of a museum that preserved the history of South Vietnam, the Vietnam War, and the diaspora of Vietnamese Boat People. In 2008, the Republic of Vietnam Boat People Museum opened at History Park in San Jose. Mr. Vu's efforts were critical in building community support to establish the museum. Today, the Viet Museum is a San Jose treasure that ensures the courageous stories from survivors of the Vietnamese Exodus are never forgotten, especially by young people.

Vu Van Loc has been a dedicated leader within the Vietnamese community in Santa Clara County. I had the pleasure of first meeting Mr. Vu when I served on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. He has been an important friend throughout my public service to Santa Clara County. I am grateful for his dedication, and through these remarks I hereby recognize and commend Mr. Vu for his service to Santa Clara County and our immigrant community.

HONORING CHANCELLOR JOSÉ
ORTIZ

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Dr. José Ortiz, Chancellor of Peralta Community College District. The Peralta District spans six cities within the East Bay and serves over 60,000 students.

Dr. Ortiz has spent his career serving within institutions of higher education and in a variety of administrative positions. His career brought him to campuses in California, Maryland, and the University of Puerto Rico at Bayamon. His range of experience, both professionally and culturally, made him the ideal candidate to serve at Peralta, which is within my Congressional District; the most diverse Congressional district in the nation.

Prior to serving as Chancellor, Dr. Ortiz served as Vice President to Laney College, which falls under the umbrella of the Peralta Community College system. While there he was known for his deep understanding and commitment to the many challenges facing the extremely diverse student body.

Later, in 2005, Dr. Ortiz moved on to become President of Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria, California, where he served until 2012. Little did he know he would one day return home to Oakland and the Peralta system. Dr. Ortiz's appointment served as an opportunity for him to return home to foster his friendly relationships and spend more time with his family.

His appointment came in the years following the Great Recession, at a time when community college districts across the nation were

facing a multitude of challenges; Dr. Ortiz called upon his exemplary leadership abilities and relationship building with his colleagues to help lead the district through some of its most trying time.

While serving as Chancellor, he emphasized delivering programs and services that enhanced the region's human, economic, environmental, and social development. Dr. Ortiz provided leadership and advocacy for the diverse students of the four colleges while promoting his mission of supporting student academic access and success. His demonstrated commitment to students serves as a fine example to others working toward providing high quality educational opportunities and services to the marginalized and underrepresented.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I salute Dr. José M Ortiz, for his outstanding service and passionate commitment to the Peralta Community College District. Dr. Ortiz has touched many lives throughout his career, and I wish him and his loved ones continued success and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA
PENNISI

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia Pennisi as she retires after forty years of service to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center. As her family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate her long list of accomplishments and years of service, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great individual who has served and contributed so much to the Sacramento region.

Since receiving her Master's Degree in Social Work in 1970 from the University of Kansas and shortly after her certification from the Academy of Certified Social Workers in 1972, Ms. Pennisi has been committed to the mission of social work. For the last forty years, Ms. Pennisi has been an integral part of the important programs that have made the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center an essential part of the North Sacramento community. As longtime Assistant Director of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood, she has been at the forefront of directing the center's children and youth services. With the leadership of Ms. Pennisi, both the Children's Program and the Teen Center Program have grown and flourished. In addition, to helping raise funds to support the center's many programs, she has been vital in ensuring its continued success.

Over her entire career, Ms Pennisi has worked tirelessly to be a champion for children. She has been a remarkable influence on her colleagues, as well as the student interns that have had the privilege of working with her. Although she will be greatly missed for her vast contributions, she will be fondly remembered for her ability to make Sacramento a better place and for her contributions to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center.

Mr. Speaker, as Patricia and her family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her retirement, I am pleased to honor and recognize her for her hard work to help the Sac-

ramento community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her the best in retirement and thanking her for her service to the Sacramento region.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
ROSELLEN KERSHAW

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Rosellen Kershaw who recently passed away at the age of 87. She leaves behind her loving family, including her daughter Julie, and granddaughters, Taylor and Morgan Marsobian. Fresno County is truly indebted to Rosellen's legacy of service, integrity and love.

Rosellen Kershaw was born on August 29, 1923, to Charles and Pinkie Kershaw in Fresno, California. She spent almost her entire life in the Central Valley, graduating from Fresno High School and Fresno State College. She received her Master's Degree from San Francisco State University.

Rosellen taught school at the elementary, high school and college levels. However, she consistently referred to herself as a "professional volunteer," having dedicated more than 50 years of her life to the causes and organizations in Fresno that she felt most passionate about. Ms. Kershaw was committed to improving her community one hour at a time.

The fruits of Rosellen's labors were reflected in her involvement with local organizations and clubs, such as the Ani Guild of the California Armenian Home, of which she was a founder and board member for over 40 years. She was also President of the League of Women Voters of Fresno, California State President of American Association of University Women, Chair of the Fresno Housing and Community Development Commission, Chair of the CSUF Arts and Humanities Advisory, board member of the Fresno Regional Foundation, Secretary of the Fresno County Grand Jury, board member of the California Journal, President of the Fresno Art Museum, and President of the Friends of Fresno County Library. In addition, she was a founder and first general manager of Valley Public Radio. Among her many achievements, Rosellen received the California Rotary Paul Harris Fellow accolade, and was awarded the CSU Fresno Top Dog Award for Service.

Rosellen Kershaw was an extraordinary woman with a commitment to family, friends and her community. Her service will forever be remembered by the lives she so graciously touched. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Rosellen Kershaw, a true pillar of our community who will never be forgotten.

HONORING SHARON SILVA

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock Chamber of

Commerce Chief Executive Officer Sharon Silva for her many years of profound service to Turlock. After fifteen years of dedicated work, she retired on August 31, 2015.

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, Sharon moved to the small town of Turlock, California with her family. Sharon found the time to further her education at Modesto Junior College and California State University, Stanislaus where she received her Bachelor's degree in Organizational Communications. In addition, she graduated from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. with a Main Street Certification Institute Certification in Historic Preservation and also from the US Chamber Institute in Chamber Management at the University of Arizona in 2004.

For eight and half years, Sharon served as the Executive Director of the Turlock Downtown Association, where she made enduring contributions to beautifying and restoring the historic downtown of Turlock. Among numerous activities that celebrated the culture of Turlock, she planned major community events such as the Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Fourth of July parade. During Mrs. Silva's last three years with the Downtown Association, she was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and diligently oversaw all three agencies. Sharon has been a beacon in the community and an integral part of the non-profit organization's success.

Volunteering is second nature to Sharon; she has been a part of several different boards and a vital member of many different clubs and organizations. Appointed by the Mayor of Turlock and confirmed by the City Council, Sharon was one of nine committee members to become a part of the Development Collaborative Advisory Committee, and provide advice and recommendations to the city for improving the business climate. Furthermore, Sharon was co-chair of the Turlock Centennial Celebration in 2008, sat on the Board of Directors for the Turlock Community Theatre, and is a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Turlock. Sharon is a past member of the Turlock Unified School District Board and sits on a number of CSU Stanislaus committees: the President's Advisory council, the College of Business Board, the Alumni Board, the CSUS Warrior Association, and lastly, and the Center for Public Policies Studies Advisory Board. She served on Stanislaus County's Economic Development Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Stanislaus County Alliance Workforce. She was also the chair of the county's Redistricting Committee in 2011. Mrs. Silva stands as a role model for community dedication. Being actively involved and connected within the community as Sharon Silva has been, it comes as no surprise that she has received numerous awards and recognitions. In 1995, she received the Turlock Citizen of the Year Award and Volunteer of the Year Award at the Best of Turlock Awards Dinner. While serving as the Executive Director for the Turlock Downtown Association, the organization received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Revitalization Achievement in Design. The Turlock Chamber of Commerce was one of ten chambers in the state of California to be a CalChamber's President Circle Recipient for six years in a row. In 2011, Sharon Silva was named the Western Chamber

Executive of the Year by the Western Association of Chamber Executives. That same year, she was nominated by Assembly member Bill Berryhill for the Woman of the Year Award. She recently received the Woman of the Year Award from the Stanislaus County Women's Commission.

For the past 27 years, Sharon has been lovingly married to Manuel Silva. She has two children: Tamra Spade and Douglas Holmes; five grandchildren: Richard Fortado, Kasondra Fortado, Kali Spade, Derek Holmes and Lexie Holmes; and one great granddaughter; Madilynn Bettencourt.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing the indispensable contributions Sharon Silva has brought to the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and its community. Sharon Silva has lived a profound experience and left a valuable legacy that many chamber CEOs may aspire to.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
OF ALLISON TRANSMISSION, IN-
CORPORATED IN INDIANAPOLIS,
INDIANA

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize one of Indianapolis' and Indiana's most venerable employers, Allison Transmission Inc., as the company celebrates its Centennial this month. One hundred years ago, James A. Allison established the Speedway Team Company to support his Indianapolis 500 racing activities. On the first day of operation, with great significance, he hung a sign that read, "Whatever leaves this shop over my name must be of the finest work possible." A century later, this principle still guides the company that bears his name.

From the company's humble beginnings as a small machine shop, Allison Transmission has grown into the world's largest manufacturer of fully automatic transmissions for medium- and heavy-duty commercial vehicles and a leader in hybrid propulsion. Allison is a major supplier of transmissions for wheeled and tracked vehicles that keep our military strong and our soldiers safe, a lineage that can be traced back to 1917 and the advent of World War I.

With its headquarters and primary manufacturing facilities still in Indianapolis, Hoosiers are proud of Allison's 2,700 employees worldwide, its market presence in more than 80 countries, annual revenues exceeding \$2 billion, and a market capitalization of more than \$5 billion. Allison Transmission is poised to remain one of the United States' most enduring examples of technological innovation and manufacturing excellence that all Americans can be proud of as we compete globally to grow jobs at home. Under the leadership of its dynamic CEO Lawrence Dewey, and through a strong partnership with the United Auto Workers, Allison Transmission continues to employ Hoosiers at wages that support strong families and the civic life of our community.

It is a special source of pride to me, Mr. Speaker, that Allison Transmission played a key role in founding MEPI, the Minority Engineering Program Indianapolis, a non-profit or-

ganization that encourages and prepares underrepresented minority students to enter STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) related career fields. For 25 years, Allison Transmission has provided MEPI students with financial support, mentors, instructors and access to its facilities for instructional purposes.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) is one of the nation's largest and most proactive organizations that provide minority students with educational opportunities at historically black colleges and universities. As a result of a partnership with Allison Transmission, the UNCF's Bowling for Scholars Bowl-A-Thon has become its second largest fundraising activity in the Midwest.

In November 2011, the Indiana Minority Supplier Dealer Council (IMSDC) awarded Allison Transmission its "Corporation of the Year" award. The award was in recognition of Allison's outreach efforts to increase the number of minority suppliers that do business with the company. Its employees have also served on the IMSDC board of directors, attended supplier fairs and sponsored local events that provided financial support to IMSDC.

In closing, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to Allison Transmission for 100 years of success which has provided economic security to tens of thousands of Hoosiers and their families and an enhanced quality of life for all of us who call Indianapolis home.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JULIAN
BOND, CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION,
GEORGIA LEGISLATOR, AND ELO-
QUENT VOICE FOR JUSTICE,
EQUALITY, AND HUMAN DIGNITY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak in praise of Julian Bond, one of the leading lights of the Civil Rights Movement, who died on Saturday, August 15, 2015, at the age of 75.

While Julian lost his battle to the illness that claimed his life, it is the struggle for civil rights and human dignity he helped to win that he will forever be remembered and revered.

Horace Julian Bond was born January 14, 1940 in Nashville, Tennessee to Julia Agnes and Horace Mann Bond.

Julian's father was the first African-American President of Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, the same institution attended by Thurgood Marshall and Langston Hughes who would both go on to make substantial contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and the advancement of African-Americans.

Julian's father later became president of Atlanta University and Julian decided to attend Morehouse College, one of the leading black colleges in the nation.

Julian Bond, who came from a long line of educators, determined at an early age to put his journalistic and organizing talents in service of the cause of civil rights and racial equality.

While a student at Morehouse College, Julian helped found The Pegasus, a literary magazine, and led nonviolent student protests

against segregation in Atlanta parks, restaurants, and movie theaters.

Mr. Speaker, today it is difficult to imagine there once was a time in our country when blacks and whites could not eat together in public restaurants, use the same public restrooms, stay at the same hotels, or attend the same schools.

Julian Bond answered the call to action and put his studies on hold to devote all of his energies and efforts to ending segregation and racial discrimination.

Mr. Speaker, it is not unusual these days for us to think of a champion as someone who receives the highest accolades in sports.

Julian Bond was a champion of the people.

His success is measured not in the numbers of trophies, medals, ribbons, and championship banners, but in the number of doors and opportunities he helped to open for those who had been neglected, marginalized, and disenfranchised.

Julian Bond knew that to bring about non-violent social change it was necessary to organize so he co-founded the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

SNCC, which organized and mobilized the participation of students and young people in the Civil Rights Movement, conceived the Freedom Rides that challenged the practice of racial segregation in interstate transportation and the Mississippi Freedom Summer project that undertook the dangerous work of helping African Americans register to vote in the state most committed to maintaining White supremacy by any means necessary.

SNCC was not the first leadership role history and circumstance would call upon Julian Bond to assume; nor would it be the last.

In 1965, after passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Julian Bond was elected to represent the residents of the 32nd district in Georgia House of Representatives.

But on January 10, 1966, his white colleagues in the Georgia House voted 184-12 not to seat him because he had publicly expressed his opposition to the Vietnam War.

Julian Bond challenged the refusal of the Georgia House to seat him and took his case all the way to the United States Supreme Court, which ruled in the unanimous decision of *Bond v. Floyd*, 385 U.S. 116 (1966), that expressing opposition to the Vietnam War was speech protected by the First Amendment and directed that he be seated as a duly elected member of the state legislature.

Julian Bond would go on to serve three more terms in the Georgia House, where he co-founded the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, and six terms in the Georgia State Senate.

In 1971, Julian Bond co-founded and served as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center that tracks the actions of hate groups to better inform and prepare communities about the dangers these groups pose.

Julian Bond consistently identified issues of civil inequality and provided solutions by gathering groups of community leaders, professionals, and educators to protect what the laws and policies would not, our basic civil rights.

In 1998, Julian Bond's commitment to justice and equality led him to answer the call to serve and accept the position of Chairman of the NAACP, a post he held until 2010.

Julian Bond was able to bring the earnest fight to achieve equality into the modern era

as he watched African-Americans achieve the highest awards in their professions and continued to break down barriers.

In November 2008, Julian Bond witnessed the election of the first African American President of the United States, a feat thought impossible just a decade earlier.

Mr. Speaker, because of trailblazers like Julian Bond millions of Americans gained access to opportunities previously denied to members of their communities.

Julian Bond spent 5 years with SNCC, 8 years as president of the Southern Poverty Law Center, 12 years as the president of NAACP, 20 years as a state representative, and 75 years an unwavering champion of civil rights for all people, including the LGBT community.

My thoughts and prayers are with Julian's beloved wife Pamela, his children and grandchildren; and the untold millions of persons whose lives were touched by one of America's greatest sons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Julian Bond, a tireless and eloquent voice for justice, equality, and human dignity who did so much to close the gap between the promise of America's founding ideals and the reality of people's lives.

A TRIBUTE TO ELAINE FENNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Elaine Fenner of the Bluffs Arts Council for being a recipient of the Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Elaine was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Elaine's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Elaine for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to serve civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but continued success.

HONORING JUAN BAUTISTA MORA

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Juan Bautista Mora who turned 98 years old on May 3, 2015.

Mr. Mora was born in Chilli, New Mexico in 1917 as the youngest member of the family that included nine children. His father was a logger assistant who traveled to the southern

part of the territory and his mother was a homemaker who also took care of many chores on the family farm.

Juan was placed on a horse at age 6 and taught how to do some of the farming and ranching. In 1922, he became very ill and was cared for by one of his sisters until he recovered. Juan received most of his education from a home school teacher, since he had many responsibilities on the farm.

At age 17, he became a U.S. Census Taker in the Sandia Mountains and would travel from farm to farm, gathering the necessary information.

At age 18, he decided to take the test to enter the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). At the time, he weighed less than 105 pounds and there was a weight requirement. Juan and his friends went to town and ate as many bananas as they could before being weighed for a second time. He made it into the Corps.

He was assigned to Camp #8 in LaVentana, New Mexico where he was assigned the work of building cabins and roads. He earned \$1.00 per day and would keep \$5.00 each month and send \$25.00 home to his family. The Corps was part of the New Deal by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and provided unskilled labor jobs related to the conservation and development of natural resources in rural lands owned by federal, local and state governments. Juan spent 18 months in the Corps.

In 1945, he married Petra Aragon, a teacher with a degree from Highland University. Juan worked for the Charles Ilfield Grocery store as a driver and he and his wife had five daughters before 1957. Petra went back to teaching at the San Ignacio Parochial School but became very ill and passed away in 1960.

From that point forward, Juan raised their five daughters on his own. He was employed by the City of Albuquerque from 1959 to 1978, first as a laborer, then a welder and eventually a supervisor, responsible for training new employees.

In 2007, Juan attended a reunion of the CCC boys and was able to reconnect with many of his friends and share memories from that time in his life.

He is still very involved with his daughters, M. Virginia Mora de Lazo, Margie Mora Brown, Deanna B. Mora, Lillian D. Stephens and Ruby Mora and their families. He has two grandchildren, Linda Lzao Sheroma and Andres F. Lazo. I would like to extend my thanks to Mr. Mora for his service as a member of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression and for his service to the community as a City of Albuquerque employee.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND BERNIECE R. HICKS

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Reverend Berniece R. Hicks on the occasion of her 97th birthday. Reverend Hicks founded Christ Gospel Churches International Inc. (CGCII) in 1957 which today has congregations across the United States, throughout South and Central America, and around the globe. The international headquarters in Jeffersonville, Indiana

hosts Christ Gospel Bible Institute—founded by Reverend Hicks in the early 1970s—which provides an education curriculum to those with an interest in studying and learning from the Bible. Moreover, the headquarters in Jeffersonville is home to the church's publishing house and weekly radio broadcast, which reaches thousands of readers and listeners across the world.

The Reverend Hicks' spiritual journey began at a young age. As a young woman, she felt the desire to study and teach the Bible, from which she dedicated her life to Jesus Christ. Reverend Hicks has written and published extensively, having authored more than 110 books over the course of her tenure. The church holds a copyright license on these materials, and Reverend Hicks receives no royalties from them.

Reverend Berniece R. Hicks touches the lives of those in her ministry in Southern Indiana and through the network of churches in the United States and around the world. Although 97 years old, she still preaches two sermons most weeks at the Jeffersonville church. Today I honor the life and legacy of Reverend Berniece R. Hicks and wish her a very happy 97th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. STEVE ALLEN

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steve Allen on his retirement after 28 years of dedicated service to the Selma Fire Department.

Mr. Allen was born on April 18, 1961. He grew up in Fresno, California and attended local schools before going on to start his fire career as a volunteer firefighter for North Central Fire Department in May 1979. He completed his Emergency Medical Technician training and was hired by Jones Ambulance in 1981.

On November 6, 1986, after completing paramedic school, Mr. Allen joined Selma Fire Department as one of Selma's first Firefighter/Paramedics. He was promoted first to Fire Engineer in November 1993 and then to Captain in January 1996.

Throughout his career, Mr. Allen worked tirelessly to protect people's lives from devastating fires, such as those in Los Angeles and the Oakland Hills Fire. Additionally, he took a special interest in investigating the causes of fires and was a member of the City of Selma's Arson Team for many years.

After 28 years with the Selma Fire Department, Mr. Allen retired on May 27, 2015.

The Selma community has been extremely fortunate to have a dedicated firefighter such as Mr. Allen to ensure the wellbeing of their community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Steve Allen for his 28 years of dedicated public service in Selma and congratulating him on his recent retirement.

IN HONOR OF MR. COMMODORE
CONYERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, champion of education, man of God, and loving husband, father, grandfather and friend, Mr. Commodore Conyers. Mr. Conyers departed this life on Monday, August 17, 2015. A funeral service was held on Saturday, August 22, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

Commodore Conyers was born in Thomasville, Georgia and graduated from Douglas High School in 1949. He then continued his education at Savannah State College, now University, and graduated in 1958 with a bachelor degree in Industrial Education. His early passion for education motivated him to excel in his studies as he progressed to earn a master's degree from Valdosta State College, now University, and an L-6 degree in Administration and Supervision from Albany State College, also now University.

Yet, it was Mr. Conyers' services to his alma mater, Savannah State College, which remained near and dear to his heart for decades. He served as President of the Greater Albany Alumni Chapter of Savannah State and was selected as the Grand Marshal of the 2014 Homecoming Parade. He recently was chosen as the latest inductee into the Savannah State University Foundation Hall of Fame. This prestigious honor will allow his legacy to live on for years to come.

Mr. Conyers' scholastic repertoire, cultivated by his devotion to service and leadership, continued to flourish, as his achievements earned him numerous recognitions and commendations within the educational arena. In 1965, he was named by the State Director of Vocational Education to serve with vocational educators and students from five high schools across Georgia. In this role, he is credited with the major accomplishment of combining two of the state's youth organizations into one. After the successful merger, he was appointed State President of the Georgia American Vocational Association where he also helped merge the two state associations into one, before serving as Treasurer of the merged organization.

In 1983, Mr. Conyers was appointed by the late Georgia Governor George Busbee to serve on a Task Force to study the need for a third state board to oversee vocational education in Georgia. The Task Force indeed recommended a third board, which is in place today. Mr. Conyers also served numerous state and community boards and organizations, including the Board of Directors of the Georgia Teachers and Education Association, the Georgia Association of Educators, and the Georgia Retired Educators Association. He also served as Chairman and Board member of the Dougherty County Board of Elections and on the Water, Gas, and Light Board of Directors, as well as the Board of Directors for the Albany Civil Rights Institute.

Mr. Speaker, one of the many things that I will always remember and respect about Commodore Conyers is his unwavering passion for education, which made him a trailblazer in his community. During his tenure as the first black

Principal of Dougherty Comprehensive High School in Albany, Georgia, a position he held for eleven years, Mr. Conyers was named First Runner-up for State of Georgia Principal of the Year and was also named the State of Georgia Administrator of the Year by the Georgia Association of Educators. In 1997, he again broke barriers when he was named Director of Vocational and Technical Education for the Dougherty County School System, the first African American to serve in this role. Moreover, he started the first Boy Scout Troop for African-American youth in Vienna, Georgia and the first Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops at Shiloh Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

In addition to the love and support of his late wife, Anne; their two children, Derrick, and Deatrice; and two grandchildren, Derrick and Ashley, Mr. Conyers relied on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to guide him throughout his life. A member of Shiloh Baptist Church since 1961, he served as Superintendent of the Sunday School, Deacon and a Trustee, Chairman of the Facilities Committee, and numerous other positions.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District salute Mr. Commodore Conyers for his leadership in education and service to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Mr. Conyers' family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT MARY'S PARISH
IN THE CITY OF GILROY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman SAM FARR, to pay tribute to Saint Mary's Parish of the City of Gilroy. On August 15, 2015, the Parish celebrated a true milestone: its 150th Anniversary. Together we commend the Parish for its century and a half of service, fellowship, and leadership to the Gilroy community.

From its founding, Saint Mary's Parish has been at the heart of its Gilroy community. Founding Pastor Thomas J. Hudson built Saint Mary of the Assumption in the young southernmost town of Santa Clara County, Gilroy, in 1865. As the town grew into a city of 50,000 residents, Saint Mary's Parish expanded, adding its third building on its 100th Anniversary in 1965. The Parish has served as a point of gathering for people with diverse backgrounds and experiences. It has also been a home to hundreds of dedicated parishioners of Saint Mary's Parish who have served the residents of Gilroy.

Saint Mary's Parish has led and contributed to the spiritual and cultural life of Gilroy for many years through various cultural events, its local and international programs, and St. Mary School, staffed by the Sisters of the Presentation. The Parish's programs have included Saint Joseph Family Center, Lord's Table, Mexico Mission, various disaster and poverty

relief collections, and person-by-person counseling.

Through the years, Saint Mary's Parish has maintained strong and active social justice outreach within the community. The Parish has contributed to the lives of many individuals and families by extending its support to young families, immigrants, families of farm workers, and persons living with physical and mental disabilities. The Parish has also offered solace to the bereaved.

In addition to being attentive to the spiritual, cultural, and social justice needs of Gilroy community members, Saint Mary's Parish has been an important source of unity to our residents. The Parish has continued to focus its efforts on the betterment of our society by providing a spiritual home for our youth and promoting social justice and diversity in the City of Gilroy.

As Saint Mary's Parish of the City of Gilroy celebrates 150 years of service to the Gilroy community, we join the many friends and families wishing well to the Parish. On this day of honor and celebration, we do hereby recognize and commend Saint Mary's Parish on this milestone.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF SOUTH
TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the City of South Tucson, a community known for the resiliency, determination, and independence of its residents.

As a native of Tucson, Arizona, I am privileged to represent the City of South Tucson in the United States Congress. The support and loyalty I have received from the residents of South Tucson during my entire public life is a great honor for me personally.

Over 6,000 people and 300 businesses call the City of South Tucson home. This square mile city incorporated by its residents, rather than losing its identity to the City of Tucson, continues after 75 years to assert its independence and be the unique and proud community it has always been through its history.

South Tucson is about family and community, offering to the much larger metropolis of Tucson a view of our past and a dynamic view of what a community can do to retain its character while looking forward.

South Tucson boasts the best Mexican cuisine found anywhere; Las Artes, a model for integrating public art and education; and public services from the state of the art Sam Lena library to excellent public schools Ochoa and Mission View. South Tucson has a sophisticated network of social service providers and City of South Tucson first responders who place the safety of their residents first.

The greatest asset that the City of South Tucson has is its people, a diverse group representing Native-Americans, African-Americans, and Anglos, and families that have contributed so much to the region.

From South Tucson have come generations of political leaders, tradesmen, educators, decorated war veterans, business leaders, civil

leaders, and so many hardworking people whose dignity and determination better us all.

Like all small towns and cities in America, the City of South Tucson faces challenges, but the drive to meet those challenges and prosper for the next 75 years is without a doubt the city's future.

I wish to congratulate the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson and the residents of the city on its 75th anniversary. The commemoration ceremony on September 19, 2015 at the Music and Arts Festival will be a day in which we pause and acknowledge the history, achievements, and the future of the City of South Tucson. Congratulations to South Tucson.

IN MEMORY OF EDITH NORLE
MCMILLAN ROBERTS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life of my good friend, Edith Norle McMillan Roberts, who passed away on Saturday, August 15, 2015, in Antelope, California at the age of 96. Edith was not only a good friend of mine, but she was a friend to Sacramento—someone who spent her life dedicated to her family, education and public service.

Edith Norle McMillan Roberts was the widow of the late Tuskegee Airman George "Spanky" Roberts, Colonel, USAF (Retired), a member of the first graduating class of the Tuskegee Airmen in 1942. She was born on March 18, 1919, in Gilliam, West Virginia. While attending West Virginia State University (formerly West Virginia State College), she met George. She graduated in 1941 with a Bachelor's degree in music and French. While at college, she joined the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and the college choir. After graduation, she taught second through fifth grade, as well as the Boys' Glee Club, at Lakin Boys' Reformatory in Point Pleasant, West Virginia. Edith and George married on March 7, 1942, immediately following his graduation in the first class of Tuskegee Airmen.

Moving to Sacramento, California in 1965, George worked at McClellan Air Force Base where Edith directed the Military Wives' Choral Group and sang in the chapel choir. The pair retired to civilian life in 1968. The family attended St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, where Edith, once again, took up the post of choir director until 1997.

Edith graduated in 1972 with her Master's Degree in social work from the Graduate School of Social Work at California State University, Sacramento. She worked for the Sacramento City Unified School District as a School Social Worker from 1972–1985, and was the first African-American Social Worker for the school district.

Edith did extensive work for the George S. "Spanky" Roberts Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. and founded the "Living History Team." She traveled the United States teaching adults and children about the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and the many hardships they were dealt in life, from Jim Crow laws and segregation to her struggles of being a military wife.

Edith was always a strong advocate of education. The George S. "Spanky" Roberts Chapter will honor her memory by creating the Edith Roberts Scholarship Award in her name. Similarly, the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. national organization will create the George and Edith Roberts Scholarship award. These scholarships will help graduating seniors to follow their goals through higher education and beyond. Nothing made Edith happier than watching young people recognize and follow their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Edith Norle McMillan Roberts. She leaves a legacy that we should all aspire to follow. She is loved deeply and will be missed by many. I pray that her loving family, George Roberts, Jr., Lanelle Brent, Michalyn Green, and Leigh Roberts; six grandchildren, Richard Brent, Heather Mercer, Joshua Roberts, Margaret Green, Zachari Roberts, and Nathaniel Roberts; and three great-grandchildren, Kathryn Mercer, Grace Roberts and Lauren Mercer will find comfort in the fact that Edith provided so much love and service to those of us who had the honor to share in her life.

A TRIBUTE TO DICK MILLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dick Miller of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Dick was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Dick's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Dick for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DEPUTY DARREN GOFORTH OF THE HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, LOVING HUSBAND, DEVOTED FATHER, AND DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow but an abiding admiration that I rise today to acknowledge the life and service of Deputy Darren Goforth of Houston, Texas.

Deputy Darren Goforth, a ten year veteran of the Harris County Sheriff's office, died on

Friday, August 28, 2015, while refueling his patrol car.

He was shot fifteen times by a man who, by all accounts, never knew Darren Goforth and the light he brought into this world.

In a senseless act of violence, the love and care Darren Goforth gave to his wife, Kathleen and two young children, and the community he served, ended entirely too soon.

According to Kathleen Goforth her husband was an "intricate blend of toughness and gentility," a man who was fiercely loyal and always strived to do the right thing; a person "who you wanted for a friend, a colleague, and a neighbor."

May I add, Mr. Speaker, Darren Goforth was what we want in an American.

Mr. Speaker, Darren Goforth's life is a testament to the goodness in the American people, but his death is a reminder of many difficult and painful truths.

Foremost among these are the dangers the men and women of our nation's law enforcement departments face every time they walk their beats and patrol their communities.

Their families, the persons who know them best and love them most, deserve to welcome them home at the end of each shift, safe and sound.

Mr. Speaker, we must confront the reality that police departments and the communities they protect are all too often adversarial.

We must all work together—law enforcement, community residents, public officials—to make our communities places where we trust one another and cooperate to achieve our mutual goal of safety and security for all persons.

The murder of Deputy Goforth also reminds us that we must do more to stem the tide of gun violence that tears through this country.

Neither our country nor our hearts can afford to lose people of such quality as Darren Goforth to gun violence in the staggering quantities that we do.

Mr. Speaker, over 32,000 Americans die from gun violence each year.

So, while Darren Goforth's death is most certainly a tragedy, death by gun violence happens all too often in our country.

This normalcy of gun violence is inexcusable.

Mr. Speaker, according to media reports, the person who ended Deputy Goforth's wonderful life, struggled with mental illness for quite some time.

We absolutely have to do more to ensure that society's most dangerous weapons stay out of the hands of the most mentally or emotionally unstable persons.

It is important that we do this because it is estimated that 61.5 million Americans experience mental illness in a given year.

This is why we must, as a nation, attach as much importance and provide the same level of resources for mental health as we do for physical health.

We can no longer afford to ignore the struggles of nearly 20 percent of the population and fail to provide adequate treatment and services that could alleviate some of that struggle and prevent horrific events like the one that claimed the life of Deputy Darren Goforth.

Mr. Speaker, I stand here today mourning the loss of Deputy Darren Goforth but I have hope.

I have hope that out of this tragedy we will be moved to act to make this country safer for the men and women who risk their lives to keep their communities safe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in honor of Deputy Darren Goforth, an extraordinary human being and a shining example of what is meant when we remember him and say: "He was one of Houston's finest."

BEULAH BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL
CHURCH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Beulah Baptist Institutional Church in Tampa, Florida in celebrating its 150th anniversary. Founded by freed slaves in 1865, the church holds a unique place in history. It has served many generations and the entire community with its mission of freedom of worship and dignity of the individual.

Established at the conclusion of the Civil War, Beulah became Tampa's first African-American Baptist Church. Over its 150 years, the Church has grown to be a symbol of social justice. Beulah has remained committed in focusing on education and civil rights. This diligent commitment has surely ensured a brighter future for its congregates and the community as a whole.

The lasting influence the church has had on Tampa is a testament to its congregants and, certainly, to its leaders. The late Reverend Dr. A. Leon Lowry, Sr. who served from 1956 to 1996, was a leader in the fight for civil rights in Tampa in the 1950s and 1960s as well as the State President of the NAACP. Reverend Lowry then went on to become the first African-American elected to office countywide—the Hillsborough County School Board. He was one of the Theology professors of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The A. Leon Lowry, Sr. Elementary School in Tampa is named in his honor.

The current pastor, Reverend Dr. W. James Favorite, has continued the church's pivotal role in community advancement. With a strong philosophy that serving the church is more than just ministering on Sunday, Reverend Favorite serves on many community initiatives including Pastors on Patrol, the African American Family Support Initiative, Childcare Facilities Advisory Board, and the Tampa Urban League board. As the Chairman of the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS of Tampa Bay, Reverend Favorite has spearheaded the effort nationally to reduce the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS by calling on clergy all across the bay area and America to put AIDS and HIV awareness at the heart of their sermons.

With 150 years of service and stewardship, the church enters into its next 150 years with enthusiasm. The church is looking forward to its upcoming projects including Senior housing initiatives, job preparation and technology training, sponsorship of Jamaica Outreach ministry, Summer Instructional camp, and an after school e-Library facility.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community that has greatly benefitted from the church's continuing presence and guidance, I am honored to congratulate the Beulah Baptist Institutional Church on their 150th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE PUTMAN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Denise Putman of the Bluff's Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Denise was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluff's Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Denise's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Denise for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but the best moving forward.

HONORING JULIE LOUISE LOVIE,
NAPA COUNTY TEACHER OF THE
YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Julie Louise Lovie, who has been selected as the Napa County Teacher of the Year for 2016.

A native of Napa, California, Ms. Lovie began her teaching career in 1993 at the Napa Valley Adult School. In 1994, she began teaching math and science at Valley Oak Continuation High School in Napa, where she still teaches today. Throughout her career, Ms. Lovie has been a beloved member of her school community. In 2010, she was named Teacher of the Year by the Napa Rotary Club, and in 2014 she was named a "Friend of the Napa Hispanic Network". Her professional affiliations have included The California Teach's Association, a partnership with the Napa County Resource Conservation Acorns to Oaks program, and the Water Shed Week "STRAW" program. Furthermore, Ms. Lovie has been a Community Club Leader for the 4 Leaf Clover 4H Club for over 15 years and has actively participated in Youth Ministry at St. Apollinaris Church for 10 years.

As an experienced continuation high school teacher, Ms. Lovie understands that traditional teaching strategies will not work for the students in her classes. Serving a population that is often considered at risk for drug and alcohol use, she serves as the Friday Night Live advisor, the California Highway Patrol "Every 15 Minutes" advisor, and as a member of the Catalyst Prevention Coalition.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Lovie makes it her mission as a teacher to change students' beliefs about themselves and take them on a journey of achievement. It is appropriate that we take this time to honor Ms. Lovie for her decades

of service to our community and her commitment to making each of her students feel both supported and respected.

HONORING PROGRESSIVE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Progressive Missionary Baptist Church located in Berkeley, California upon its 80th Anniversary as a strong religious pillar in the East Bay community.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church was founded in 1935 by a group of 35 devout Christians. They sought to bring glory to God by engaging and empowering believers through fellowship, discipleship, worship and service. The church was built in the historic Lorin district of Berkeley. To accommodate its growing membership, the church was expanded in 1959 to include a library, nursery, and classrooms. The church added a new building in 1964 and named it the Stoval Center in honor of the late Pastor Edward Stoval.

Dr. Earl C. Stuckey Sr. was elected senior pastor of Progressive Missionary Baptist Church in September 1977. Pastor Stuckey is active in both the faith and local communities. He served as an advisor on the Billy Graham Crusade, and was an active member of the Baptist Ministers Union as well as numerous other Christian organizations, including serving as a planning board member of the Mount Hermon Christian Conference; Publicity Chairman of the Evangelism Committee; former board member of the Bay Cities Bible Institute; and Christian Nationals Evangelism Commission.

Through many outreach programs, Progressive Missionary Baptist Church has been able to better the lives of people in their community. The church facilitates programs such as the Bay Area Rescue Mission, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, Crown Ministries Financial Seminars, Project Go Ye, and Celebrate Recovery. All of these programs have had a truly remarkable effect on the residents of the Bay Area.

Progressive Missionary Baptist Church continues to host ministries for groups of all ages and areas of need. The Life Development Ministry provides young members a safe and caring atmosphere in which they can receive guidance and direction. The Home Builders Ministry works to strengthen the spiritual foundation for engaged and married couples; the Men's Fellowship Ministry challenges men to reach spiritual maturity and restore family connections; and, the Women's Fellowship Ministry seeks to enable each woman to discover and utilize her spiritual potential.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Progressive Missionary Baptist Church on the special occasion of its 80th anniversary. I wish Progressive Missionary Baptist Church many more years of faithful and compassionate service.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE LAWRENCE
K. KARLTON

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of retired U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence K. Karlton, who passed away last month. I ask my colleagues to take a moment and join me in tribute to Judge Karlton's truly distinguished life and service to the American people.

Judge Karlton was a steadfast believer that justice and equal protection under the law applied to all Americans, regardless of one's place in our nation and society. After graduating from New York University and Columbia School of law, Judge Karlton served in the United States Army and was the lead Civilian Legal Officer at the Sacramento Army Depot. He would later serve in private practice and volunteer as a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union on a number of civil rights cases. Governor Jerry Brown, well aware of Judge Karlton's talents, appointed him to the Superior Court of California in 1976. Three years later, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California in 1979. He would serve honorably for a number of years and took senior status in 2000. After thirty-five years on the federal bench, Judge Karlton formally retired last September.

With his passing, Judge Karlton has left behind a clear legacy as a fair jurist, one who was always impartial to those who stood in front of him, and one who clearly valued the rights enshrined in the United States Constitution. He has left an unforgettable mark on the people of our nation who needed the federal courts to be strong in order to protect their rights. While on the federal bench, Judge Karlton served on a number three judge panels that were charged with overseeing the State of California's overcrowded prison system. He oversaw a complex class action case filed on behalf of those who had immigrated to the United States in the 1980s, and waded into the complexities of federal protections for endangered species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta in the 2000s.

Finally and perhaps most importantly, Judge Karlton leaves a legacy as a mentor to many talented lawyers, a number of whom have gone on to be appointed to federal and state judgeships. While the responsibilities of serving on federal bench were immense, he also was a wonderful husband to his wife, Sue, and father to his daughter, Emily Williams.

Mr. Speaker, as Judge Lawrence Karlton's family, friends and colleagues gather to honor his life and accomplishments, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him and recognizing him for his many years of service to our nation and the legacy that he leaves behind.

HONORING CARLOS P. YAMZON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Stanislaus Council of

Governments (StanCOG) Executive Director Carlos P. Yamzon on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his years of profound service to Stanislaus County.

Over 35 years ago, Mr. Yamzon's career began in the public service of transportation. Twenty-seven of those years were spent in technical and management positions with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), whose purpose is to provide a safe and reliable transportation system to benefit and enhance the state of California.

After working in the transportation sector, Mr. Yamzon was amply prepared to begin working for StanCOG, the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the state designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency for the region of Stanislaus County. He worked diligently for this public organization to ensure transportation plans that would enhance the economic vitality of all Stanislaus County cities. After five short years, Mr. Yamzon was promoted to Executive Director.

In this role, Mr. Yamzon was responsible for a variety of entities within the organization. He was charged with regional transportation planning, program administration, financial management and budget control where he handled all areas proficiently and with expertise. Mr. Yamzon was a key player in implementing StanCOG's 2011 and 2014 Regional Transportation Plans. These plans will continue to be utilized for future transportation improvements and investments.

During his time at StanCOG, Mr. Yamzon was also instrumental in improving State Route 132. This is a major route for central valley commuters, as well as commercial truck drivers. In addition to Mr. Yamzon's efforts to improve State Route 132, he was an advocate for finding a suitable route in Stanislaus County to connect Interstate 5 and State Highway 99, 2 of California's best known routes.

Mr. Yamzon is a well-known leader in the community of Modesto and the region of Stanislaus County. In the StanCOG office located in downtown Modesto, he is loved and admired by his staff for his sense of humor, unique sock choices, his love for jelly donuts and his keen devotion to rock and roll.

Residing in Modesto, California for 29 years, Carlos and his wife Liz raised two children; daughter Aja Yamzon and son Marlon Yamzon.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to the transportation systems in Stanislaus County by Executive Director Carlos Yamzon. We wish him continued success in his retirement.

HONORING MR. MARK RAYMOND
CHANDLER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Mark Raymond Chandler. Known throughout the Bay Area as a tireless advocate for veterans, Mr. Chandler has left an undeniable mark on our community. With his passing on July 31, 2015, we look to honor the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, on July 25, 1934, Mark Raymond Chandler, formerly Raymond Joseph Buczynski, set out to explore the world at a young age. Mark spent much of his youth in New York City as a theatre actor. At the age of sixteen, he joined the United States Navy and later served in the Korean War. Mr. Chandler also aided in the evacuation of American civilian and "at risk" Vietnamese from Saigon in the fall of Saigon. He traveled extensively across the world, and met his beloved wife Indiah while working in Indonesia.

Later on in life, Mr. Chandler dedicated himself to serving as an advocate for disabled veterans, serving on the Veterans Affairs Commission, and working tirelessly to bring a VA Clinic to Alameda Point.

Mr. Chandler was a soldier, an actor, and a journalist, but above all else, he was a loving husband and father. He is survived by his wife Indiah, his siblings Marianne and Sonny, his children Kathy, Roger, Steven, and Brian, and his grandson Oliver.

Mark will forever be remembered as a hopeless romantic, a lover of roses, and a man who, despite all of his travels and experiences, cherished nothing more than sharing a coffee and a bun with his grandson, who he loved more than life itself.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the life of an outstanding individual and leader. Mr. Chandler's contributions have truly impacted countless lives throughout the Bay Area. I join all of Mr. Chandler's loved ones in celebrating his incredible accomplishments and offer my most sincere condolences.

A TRIBUTE TO CALLIE ECKMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Callie Eckmann from the Tri-Center Varsity Cheer team, as she has been honored with the status of All-American at the Tri-Center cheer camp.

To achieve this status, Callie had to try out in front of the entire camp, demonstrating her knowledge and skill in all areas of cheer. Callie has dedicated her time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend her for her hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Callie demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Callie on a job well done, and wish her nothing but continued success.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker on this joyful day 50 years ago, President Lyndon

Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and because of that law, I stand before you as Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, the first African American woman Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today not just to commemorate the landmark achievement of 50 years ago but to inform our colleagues and the nation of the need to redouble and rededicate our efforts to the work that remains to be done to protect the right of all Americans to vote free from discrimination and the injustices that prevent them from exercising this most fundamental right of citizenship.

On August 6, 1965, in the Rotunda of the Capitol and in the presence of such luminaries as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Ralph Abernathy of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Roy Wilkins of the NAACP; Whitney Young of the National Urban League; James Foreman of the Congress of Racial Equality; A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; John Lewis of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee; Senators Robert Kennedy, Hubert Humphrey, and Everett Dirksen; President Johnson addressed the nation before signing the Voting Rights Act:

The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was critical to preventing brazen voter discrimination violations that historically left millions of African Americans disenfranchised.

In 1940, for example, there were less than 30,000 African Americans registered to vote in Texas and only about 3% of African Americans living in the South were registered to vote.

Poll taxes, literacy tests, and threats of violence were the major causes of these racially discriminatory results.

After passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, which prohibited these discriminatory practices, registration and electoral participation steadily increased to the point that by 2012, more than 1.2 million African Americans living in Texas were registered to vote.

In 1964, the year before the Voting Rights Act became law, there were approximately 300 African Americans in public office, including just three in Congress.

Few, if any, African Americans held elective office anywhere in the South.

Because of the Voting Rights Act, today there are more than 9,100 black elected officials, including 46 members of Congress, the largest number ever.

The Voting Rights Act opened the political process for many of the approximately 6,000 Hispanic public officials that have been elected and appointed nationwide, including more than 275 at the state or federal level, 32 of whom serve in Congress.

Native Americans, Asians and others who have historically encountered harsh barriers to full political participation also have benefited greatly.

The crown jewel of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is Section 5, which requires that states and localities with a chronic record of discrimination in voting practices secure federal approval before making any changes to voting processes.

Section 5 protects minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst.

Since 1982, Section 5 has stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in their tracks, including 107 discriminatory changes right here in Texas.

And it is a source of eternal pride to all of us in Houston that in pursuit of extending the full measure of citizenship to all Americans, in 1975 Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, who also represented this historic 18th Congressional District of Texas, introduced, and the Congress adopted, what are now Sections 4(f)(3) and 4(f)(4) of the Voting Rights Act, which extended the protections of Section 4(a) and Section 5 to language minorities.

During the floor debate on the 1975 reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, Congresswoman Jordan explained why this reform was needed:

There are Mexican-American people in the State of Texas who have been denied the right to vote; who have been impeded in their efforts to register and vote; who have not had encouragement from those election officials because they are brown people.

So, the state of Texas, if we approve this measure, would be brought within the coverage of this Act for the first time.

When it comes to extending and protecting the precious right to vote, the Lone Star State—the home state of Lyndon Johnson and Barbara Jordan—can be the leading state in the Union, one that sets the example for the nation.

But to realize that future, we must turn from and not return to the dark days of the past.

We must remain ever vigilant and oppose all schemes that will abridge or dilute the precious right to vote.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today to remind the nation that the right to vote—that “powerful instrument that can break down the walls of injustice”—is facing grave threats.

The threat stems from the decision issued in June 2013 by the Supreme Court in *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA’s Section 5 preclearance requirements.

According to the Supreme Court majority, the reason for striking down Section 4(b) was that “times change.”

Now, the Court was right; times have changed.

But what the Court did not fully appreciate is that the positive changes it cited are due almost entirely to the existence and vigorous enforcement of the Voting Rights Act.

And that is why the Voting Rights Act is still needed.

Let me put it this way: in the same way that the vaccine invented by Dr. Jonas Salk in 1953 eradicated the crippling effects but did not eliminate the cause of polio, the Voting Rights Act succeeded in stymieing the practices that resulted in the wholesale disenfranchisement of African Americans and language minorities but did eliminate them entirely.

The Voting Rights Act is needed as much today to prevent another epidemic of voting disenfranchisement as Dr. Salk’s vaccine is still needed to prevent another polio epidemic.

However, officials in some states, notably Texas and North Carolina, seemed to regard the *Shelby* decision as a green light and rushed to implement election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

My constituents remember very well the Voter ID law passed in Texas in 2011, which required every registered voter to present a valid government-issued photo ID on the day of polling in order to vote.

The Justice Department blocked the law in March of 2012, and it was Section 5 that prohibited it from going into effect.

At least it did until the *Shelby* decision, because on the very same day that *Shelby* was decided officials in Texas announced they would immediately implement the Photo ID law, and other election laws, policies, and practices that could never pass muster under the Section 5 preclearance regime.

The Texas Photo ID law was challenged in federal court and thankfully, just yesterday, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit upheld the decision of U.S. District Court Judge Nelva Gonzales Ramos that Texas’ strict voter identification law discriminated against blacks and Hispanics and violated Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act.

Mr. Speaker, protecting voting rights and combating voter suppression schemes are two of the critical challenges facing our great democracy.

Without safeguards to ensure that all citizens have equal access to the polls, more injustices are likely to occur and the voices of millions silenced.

Those of us who cherish the right to vote justifiably are skeptical of Voter ID laws because we understand how these laws, like poll taxes and literacy tests, can be used to impede or negate the ability of seniors, racial and language minorities, and young people to cast their votes.

Consider the demographic groups who lack a government issued ID:

1. African Americans: 25%
2. Asian Americans: 20%
3. Hispanic Americans: 19%
4. Young people, aged 18–24: 18%
5. Persons with incomes less than \$35,000: 15%

And there are other ways abridging or suppressing the right to vote, including:

1. Curtailing or eliminating early voting
2. Ending same-day registration
3. Not counting provisional ballots cast in the wrong precinct on Election Day will not count.
4. Eliminating adolescent pre-registration
5. Shortening poll hours
6. Lessening the standards governing voter challenges thus allowing self-proclaimed “ballot security vigilantes” like the King Street Patriots to cause trouble at the polls.

Mr. Speaker, on the 50th anniversary of the landmark Voting Rights Act signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on August 6, 1965, I called upon House Speaker BOEHNER to bring legislation intended to protect the right to vote of all Americans to the floor for debate and vote.

Specifically, I call for the passage of the bipartisan Voting Rights Amendments Act (H.R. 885), of which I am an original co-sponsor, which repairs the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court’s *Shelby* decision.

This legislation replaces the old ‘static’ coverage formula with a new dynamic coverage formula, or ‘rolling trigger,’ which effectively gives the legislation nationwide reach because any state and any jurisdiction in any state potentially is subject to being covered if the requisite number of violations are found to have been committed.

Alternatively, I call upon the Speaker to let the House debate and vote on the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015 (H.R. 2867), a bill that provides even greater federal oversight of jurisdictions which have a history of voter suppression and protects vulnerable communities from discriminatory voting practices.

Second, I call for the passage of H.R. 12, the Voter Empowerment Act of 2015, legislation I have co-sponsored that protects voters from suppression, deception, and other forms of disenfranchisement by modernizing voter registration, promoting access to voting for individuals with disabilities, and protecting the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for federal office.

Mr. Speaker, before concluding there is one other point I would like to stress.

In his address to the nation before signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965, President Johnson said:

Presidents and Congresses, laws and lawsuits can open the doors to the polling places and open the doors to the wondrous rewards which await the wise use of the ballot.

But only the individual Negro, and all others who have been denied the right to vote, can really walk through those doors, and can use that right, and can transform the vote into an instrument of justice and fulfillment.

In other words, political power—and the justice, opportunity, inclusion, and fulfillment it provides—comes not from the right to vote but in the exercise of that right.

And that means it is the civic obligation of every citizen to both register and vote in every election, state and local as well as federal.

Because if we can register and vote, but fail to do so, we are guilty of voluntary voter suppression, the most effective method of disenfranchisement ever devised.

And in recent years, Americans have not been doing a very good job of exercising our civic responsibility to register, vote, and make their voices heard.

Mr. Speaker, for millions of Americans, the right to vote protected by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things.

So on this 50th anniversary of that landmark law, let us rededicate ourselves to honoring those who won for us this precious right by remaining vigilant and fighting against both the efforts of others to abridge or suppress the right to vote and our own apathy in exercising this sacred right.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN REVIER

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank John Revier for the nearly fifteen years of service he has given me as my Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Director. John's last day with my office was yesterday, and today he is beginning a new phase in his career at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) where he will serve in Boise as the Director for State and Regional Government Relations.

Not many staffers come along like John Revier. For those who know him, they know

he has one of the sharpest legislative minds of any staffer I have ever seen. He can break down any legislative or administrative issue in an instant and begin charting the course of action and implementing it. Many times he does this before people understand what the problem actually is and how it is going to affect them. John has become an expert on so many different issues it's hard to begin counting them.

As a Congressional staffer, John accomplished a rare feat. He served in both the Senate District office and Washington, D.C. office for the late Senator Rod Grams of Minnesota. He also served in both my Washington, D.C. office and Boise office. Not many Congressional staffers can say they touched all four bases in the House and Senate. This served to impress upon him how to work well with State and D.C. offices in both the House and Senate.

John is very proud of his roots in Minnesota and moreover his hometown of Redwood Falls. However, we are fortunate that he is now an Idaho transplant and will continue to serve Idaho in a new capacity.

I want to thank John's wife Jani and their two wonderful children Kate and Sam. They have allowed John to give much of his time to me. Moreover, it's been a pleasure to watch the twins as they are growing up.

I wish John the best in his new position, and as I like to jokingly say—"good luck to the INL for taking him away from us".

RECOGNIZING MIGUEL TREVIÑO, JR.

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retiring CEO of Gateway Community Health Center, Miguel Treviño, Jr. Born on April 14, 1944 in Laredo, Texas. Mr. Treviño started his career 48 years ago with the Laredo-Webb County Health Department working on the Migrant Health Program. This program later became the private, not-for-profit corporation Gateway Community Health Center, which has provided preventive health programs including: Family Planning, Breast and Cervical Cancer Services, and Immunizations.

As the former President of both the Texas Association of Community Health Centers and the Community Health Network of South Texas, Mr. Treviño was passionate about bringing health care needs to the forefront in his community.

A proud husband and father of three, Mr. Treviño is a man of values who has always extended a hand to those in need. His compassion and persistence were exemplified every day by his eagerness to greet everyone the moment he walked in the door and his willingness to pay for patients who couldn't afford services.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Treviño. He never wavered and stood his ground; all to benefit the community and those in it who were most vulnerable. Thank you for this time.

A TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT MARK T. ALBERS

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mark Albers of Boy Scout Troop 182 in Waukee, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained for more than a century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, and must complete an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Mark planned, constructed and installed three professional grade benches at the Covenant Presbyterian Church playground in West Des Moines. This playground is frequently used by area families and the Head Start Program at the church. The work ethic Mark has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication, and perseverance. I am honored to represent Mark and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him on reaching the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES IN LOS ANGELES

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and celebrate the success of the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, California. The Games began on Saturday, July 25, 2015 with spectacular Opening Ceremonies at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum that featured an address by First Lady Michelle Obama. The Games ended with festive Closing Ceremonies at the same venue on Sunday, August 2, 2015. I am proud to represent the area that includes not only the Coliseum, but also the University of Southern California which has hosted several events, including aquatics, basketball, track and field competitions.

Special Olympics World Games this year included over 6,000 athletes from 165 countries competing in 25 different sports. I am particularly happy to have the Games in Los Angeles after 16 years of being hosted outside of the United States.

Since its founding in 1968 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, the Special Olympics have played a significant part in fostering greater

acceptance and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities in the U.S. and all over the world. The Games honor the talents, perseverance and achievements of people who are all too often overlooked or excluded from mainstream society. Every year, millions of athletes participate in Special Olympics activities in nearly every country of the world, with the support of as many as one million coaches and volunteers.

The Special Olympians here in Los Angeles have travelled far and overcome many obstacles in their quest for excellence. They also know that their willingness to step into the spotlight and share their abilities and dreams with the world will offer inspiration to others with intellectual disabilities, and to their families, friends, villages, towns, cities and nations.

Thanks are also due to the families and friends back home who support their athletes and loved ones with intellectual disabilities, whether or not they will ever make it to the World Games.

I invite all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me and the entire bipartisan Los Angeles delegation in congratulating the organizers, coaches, volunteers, families, supporters and most of all the athletes on the success of the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles.

INTRODUCING A JOINT RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM OBTAINING NUCLEAR WEAPONS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will authorize the sitting President or his successors to use the armed forces of the United States to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons.

On July 14, 2015, a Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) designed to ensure that Iran's nuclear program is used solely for peaceful purposes was finalized. With history as our guide, any agreement with the Iranian government must be met with skepticism, and therefore, backed up with muscularity—my legislation provides this muscularity.

Indeed, the importance of an international framework that actually prohibits Iran from ever becoming a nuclear weapons state cannot be overstated. As Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission and the only American to have served as President of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE PA) Parliamentary Assembly, as well as a former member of both the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and Committee on Foreign Affairs, I am acutely aware of the challenges in dealing with Iran's nuclear program.

Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon at any time is a threat to the United States as well as our allies in the region, and its questionable sincerity in forgoing the procurement of such weapons has created legitimate cause for concern in the past and must, therefore, inform how we proceed today and in the future. It is my sincere hope that my legislation will pro-

vide the added hard power necessary to deter Iran from continued efforts to obtain nuclear weapons, including skirting compliance with the JCPOA, if implemented.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will send a clear message to the Iranian regime that the United States is willing to ensure that Iran never becomes a nuclear weapons state at any cost.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB FENNER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bob Fenner of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Bob was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Bob's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Bob for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but the best moving forward.

IN HONOR OF THE PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION'S ANNUAL SESSION FROM AUGUST 2 THROUGH 7, 2015

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the instrumental work of the Progressive National Baptist Convention to protect the right to vote as they host their annual session from August 2 through 7, 2015 in Dallas, Texas. At its annual session, the Progressive National Baptist Convention calls on its current members to protect the right that its founding members fought to earn: the right to vote. Today, on the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, the right to the ballot box is once again challenged and the foot soldiers fighting to protect against the disenfranchisement of vulnerable populations are more necessary than ever.

Since its Civil Rights era founding in 1961, the Progressive National Baptist Convention has fought to improve the conditions of the African American community at large. The Progressive National Baptist Convention was the denominational home and platform for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., as its founding leaders worked to unite Baptist faith communities across the country to further the socio-economic liberation of African Americans in the United States. The founding principles of fel-

lowship, progress, service and peace continue to guide its membership as they now apply the cornerstones of their organization to advocate for full voter registration and participation.

In the last two years the Supreme Court weakened key components of the original Voting Rights Act of 1965, allowing state legislatures nationwide to actively create and implement voter ID laws meant to keep African Americans, Latinos and other traditionally disenfranchised communities away from the ballot box. On the heels of the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, the Progressive National Baptist Convention continues to be a vital Baptist denomination with an estimated membership of 2.5 million actively working to give full voice, leadership and active support to the black community, America, and ultimately the universal fight for human freedom. Today, the Progressive National Baptist Convention calls on its nationwide membership to fight in the name of voter empowerment and restoration of voting protections for all Americans.

In my home state of Texas, one of the battlegrounds for the modern struggle to protect the right to vote, the Progressive National Baptist Convention will galvanize member churches across the country to work to end voter intimidation, voting suppression, and suspicious practices. Additionally, the Progressive National Baptist Convention will embark upon a nationwide voter registration campaign with a special focus on the communities targeted by voting discrimination.

In honor of the great civil rights tradition that the Progressive National Baptist Convention continues, and in recognition of its status as an active advocate organization for the African American community and disenfranchised communities everywhere, this statement will be entered on Tuesday, September 8, 2015.

HONORING SHILOH CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shiloh Church located in Oakland, California upon its 50th Anniversary as a strong religious pillar in the East Bay community.

Shiloh Church was founded in 1965 by Dr. Violet Kiteley and her son, Dr. David Kiteley, in the living room of an African-American family. They sought to bring glory to God by engaging and empowering believers through fellowship, discipleship, worship and service.

Since its founding, Shiloh Church has become a multi-ethnic congregation with members from over 40 nations. To accommodate its growing membership, the church underwent extensive remodeling of the facility to include a technology center and youth center. Shiloh Church also has affiliate ministries impacting hundreds of thousands of people in Canada, Hong Kong, China, Japan, Philippines, and Ethiopia throughout the world through its biblically-based training centers and church plants.

Dr. Violet Kiteley, now in her 90's, has served in fulltime ministry for over 70 years. She has served as the President of Shiloh Bible College for over 35 years and was personally instrumental in training hundreds of

leaders who are now pastors, elders, missionaries, and licensed ministers in churches across the world. Dr. David Kiteley followed in his mother's footsteps alongside his wife, Pastor Marilyn, and they have faithfully served the church full-time since 1970 as co-pastors.

Dr. David has traveled extensively and held leadership conferences in over 45 countries. Dr. David's son, Pastor Patrick and his wife served as Senior Pastors from 2008 until 2015. Now, Dr. David's daughter, Pastor Melinda, and her husband, Pastor Javier Ramos, will serve as 4th senior leadership transition in the church's history that will carry on the spiritual heritage laid by the past generations.

Shiloh Church has been able to better the lives of East Bay residents through its various outreach programs such as the Robert Allen Mercy House, which provides groceries and other resources to the unemployed, underemployed, and homeless. Since 1982, this program has disbursed over \$1,000,000 of food each year to more than 15,000 families.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I extend my sincerest congratulations to Shiloh Church on the special occasion of its 50th anniversary. I wish Shiloh Church many more years of faithful and compassionate service.

A TRIBUTE TO JOHN RASMUSSEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate John Rasmussen of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. John was granted this prestigious award as he has demonstrated his dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. John's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud John for his commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating him for receiving this award and wish him nothing but the best moving forward.

GRAND OPENING OF VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE'S DR. PREM REDDY HEALTH AND SCIENCES BUILDING

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, over my time representing the citizens of California's Eighth Congressional District, I have been able to spend time with and learn from some of the best community leaders America has to offer.

These are folks who regularly put the interest of others before their own. They show us their character and generosity by going above what is required or expected of them, in order to improve the livelihood of the community as a whole. I come before you today to speak on Dr. Reddy's latest philanthropic endeavor—Victor Valley College's Dr. Prem Reddy Health and Sciences Building.

Opened on August 28, 2015, this 24,000 square foot facility will provide much needed new labs for the science programs, as well as nursing specific training labs, all integrated with indoor and outdoor student gathering and study spaces to create a collaborative and technology driven learning environment. The building will also feature expanded anatomy and chemistry labs, as well as a digital science lab capable of up to 40 workstations. The new nursing lab will feature 8 simulated medical beds and instruction space for up to 40 students. All of these lab and training facilities are supplied with high tech audio and visual equipment and a wireless network for student access. The building also operates under the most technologically advanced systems for energy efficiency and energy savings.

The students trained and educated in this state-of-the-art facility will enter the healthcare industry in a period of great turmoil. As the payment methods and organization of the industry rapidly evolve, no one can predict what the future may hold. However, the one thing we know for certain is that we will always need the most highly trained and educated students to provide the actual care, person to person. That process begins by having a learning environment to facilitate their education. I graciously thank Dr. Prem Reddy for his generosity on making this building a reality, and I congratulate Victor Valley College for its development and wish its future students years of success.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTINA COONEY FOR HER EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES IN LOS ANGELES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Christina Cooney for winning a Silver and Bronze medal in equestrian events at the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, California this past July.

In order to qualify for the World Games, Christina had to win a gold medal in local, regional and state competitions, and be approved by Special Olympics Florida. Christina achieved all of these feats to become one of 7,000 competitors from over 170 countries around the world, and the only equestrian rider from Florida, out of ten riders from around the nation, to represent the United States at the World Games.

Christina is visually impaired, deaf, mentally challenged, and cannot speak; yet, she is able to communicate with the horses she rides and cares for in a way few individuals are able. Christina started riding at Vinceremos Therapeutic Riding Center in Loxahatchee, Florida, at age 12 and has ridden for over 20 years.

At Vinceremos, Christina trains and volunteers on a daily basis, doing whatever tasks are required to care for the animals and the facilities.

Christina developed a remarkable relationship with her coach, Kim Elie, who took it upon herself to learn sign language and created a buzzer system for communication purposes. When Christina learned she qualified for the World Games, she and her coaches and family faced one last challenge: funding the trip to compete in California. The Special Olympics only funds transportation for the competing athlete not for their family members and coaches. Thus, Coach Kim Elie's husband, Mark Elie, set up an online fundraising account that raised over \$8,000 to fund the travel costs of her family members and coaches. In a similar way, a local restaurant held an event in support of Christina that raised over \$7,000 in one night. This money has created a fund in Christina's name that pays for sign language instruction for her coaches.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of Christina for continuing to push the bounds for what is possible within her sport. Christina has overcome many obstacles to become the decorated Olympic medalist she is today. She may live with disabilities, but she competes with the heart of an Olympian. That is why I am so truly honored to recognize Christina Cooney as a Hastings' Hero. It is inspiring individuals such as Christina, who give me great pride to represent in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on July 28 and July 29 on account of official business at the Trans-Pacific Partnership talks. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call 473, I would have voted No (Young amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 474, I would have voted No (Smith amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 475, I would have voted Aye (Johnson amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 476, I would have voted Aye (Capps amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 477, I would have voted Aye (Cicilline amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 478, I would have voted Aye (Cicilline/Jackson-Lee amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 479, I would have voted Aye (Nadler amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 480, I would have voted Aye (Pocan/Moore amendment to the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 481, I would have voted Aye (Motion to Recommit the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 482, I would have voted No (Final passage of the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act).

On Roll Call 483, I would have voted No (Ordering the previous question on the Rule for H.R. 1994 and H.R. 3236).

On Roll Call 484, I would have voted No (Rule for H.R. 1994 and H.R. 3236).

On Roll Call 485, I would have voted Aye (Passage of the First Responder Anthrax Preparedness Act).

On Roll Call 486, I would have voted Aye (Passage of the Surface Transportation and Veterans Health Care Choice Improvement Act).

On Roll Call 487, I would have voted Aye (Takano amendment to the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 488, I would have voted Aye (Motion to recommit the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

On Roll Call 489, I would have voted No (Final passage of the VA Accountability Act of 2015).

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY BROWN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mary Brown, who recently passed away on August 28, 2015, at the age of 82. Mary was an extraordinary person, and she will always be remembered as a woman who lived her life with purpose and great dedication to her students, family, friends, and community.

Mary Brown was the pioneer of girls' basketball in the San Joaquin Valley. She left an indelible stamp in the record books and inspired young women to fulfill their potential in athletics and academics. In 18 seasons at San Joaquin Memorial High School, she directed the girls' basketball team to a 317–45 record, highlighted by 16 league titles and eight Central Section championships. Through her impeccable coaching, the Panthers won 13 consecutive league championships from 1971 to 1983, setting a state record, and the team had 97 straight league victories; the second longest streak in state history. In 1973 she was named the Girls State Coach of the year.

As a graduate of Fresno State, Mary was an exemplary community leader and gave back in ways that will not be forgotten. Her ability to motivate and inspire young women to reach their greatest potential was clearly visible in her coaching techniques. Mary has brought great pride to San Joaquin Memorial High School, and the community overall. Many of her former players consider Mary an icon and legend in sports.

Her commitment to the community of Fresno will not be forgotten. All of those who knew her or played for her are truly grateful for the lasting imprint she has made in their lives as an incomparable coach and leader.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in saying farewell to a woman who embodies passion and inspiration, Ms. Mary Brown. Her genuine character and loving commitment to her friends and community will be greatly missed.

HONORING SERGEANT JOHN D. TREANTOS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of Sergeant John D. Treantos. The beloved father, grandfather, brother, and teacher passed away on Friday, July 31st, 2015 surrounded by his loving family.

During his youth, Sgt. Treantos grew up in California's State Capitol, Sacramento where he attended the local high school, Sacramento High. Following graduation in 1954, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps where he spent several years diligently serving our country. Sgt. Treantos' time in the Marine Corps was spent teaching his fellow marines to navigate exiting helicopters during the Korean War. In addition to always helping others, he was part of the unit to test helicopter tactics to be used with nuclear weapons. Before retiring from the Marine Corps, he achieved the rank of Sergeant.

Following his service in the Marine Corps, Sgt. Treantos moved back to his hometown of Sacramento and enrolled at Sacramento State College. He obtained his degree and began his career as an educator where his passion for teaching history would be utilized and instilled in his students. Dedicating 52 years between Sacramento High School, Tracy High School, and San Joaquin Delta College, Mr. Treantos loved teaching and once stated that he would work for free as long as he got to teach history. Mr. Treantos was a beloved teacher who would spend countless hours researching his lessons to ensure his students would not only learn what was being taught, but be able to envision the historic events that shaped the United States. His legacy will live on through the lessons he instilled in his students.

In his retirement, Sgt. Treantos became actively involved in the Tracy American Legion Post 172. From 2002–2012, he served as Commander where he assisted in honoring local heroes, organized events, and selected recipients to attend Boys State. He was also involved in the Bill King Detachment 019 of the Marine Corps League in Modesto where he served two terms as the detachment Commandant. Sgt. Treantos was the Judge Advocate and took part in funerals for Marines, color guards and parades. Furthermore, Sgt. Treantos was the proud president of the Tracy War Memorial where he participated in honoring veterans and fallen heroes. Marine Treantos was an inaugural and sitting member of my Veterans Advisory Committee before his passing.

Sgt. Treantos was deeply passionate about sports and unwaveringly loyal to the San Francisco Giants. Downtime for Sgt. Treantos was spent enjoying music, theatre, museums, movies and most of all, reading books. He was never without a book and shared his desire for the arts and learning with the various people in his life.

Sgt. Treantos is survived by his son John Treantos; daughters Jennifer, Melina and Imogene; five grandchildren Chris, John, Roger, Addy, and Cameron; three sisters Dena, Kathy, and Mary; and the mother of his children, Liz.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Sergeant John D. Treantos for his service and outstanding contributions to the community as well as our country.

A TRIBUTE TO JULIA DOLLEN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Julia Dollen from the Tri-Center Varsity Cheer team, as she has been honored with the status of All-American at the Tri-Center cheer camp.

To achieve this status, Julia had to try out in front of the entire camp, demonstrating her knowledge and skill in all areas of cheer. Julia has dedicated her time and talents to achieving a single goal and I commend her for her hard work and determination.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by Julia demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress. I know all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Julia on a job well done, and wish her nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW WALZER FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE INTELLECTUALLY AND DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED COMMUNITY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Matthew Walzer for his extraordinary contributions to the lives of those with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities. It all began with a simple request to achieve a dream that most take for granted: 16-year-old Matthew needed an easier way to put on his shoes.

You see, Matthew has cerebral palsy, a condition which stiffens the muscles in the body making it difficult to walk and even speak. In an open letter to Nike's CEO Mark Parker, he explained that his condition makes it impossible to tie his shoes. Matthew, who at the time was preparing to leave high school and attend college, explained he simply wanted to go to the college of his choice and not worry about someone tying his shoes every day.

Originally, Nike planned to make just one pair of this revolutionary shoe for Matthew; however that was not enough for this inspiring young man. Matthew didn't want a special shoe just for him—he understood this was an opportunity to develop something that would benefit a diverse community of millions of people facing various physical challenges. As a longtime admirer of Nike shoes, he brought attention to the lack of a running or basketball shoe with a self-lacing system that could be used by everyone.

Matthew's discussions with Nike were the catalyst to change the world of shoe technology. Through his tireless work alongside

Nike, his dream became a reality. Nike recently released the Zoom LeBron Soldier 8 FLYEASE, a shoe that features a wrap-around zipper system. Now a sophomore at Florida Gulf Coast University, Matthew is able to put his shoes on every day without assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of Matthew Walzer for refusing to back down from his goal and his actively seeking out a universal solution. He wanted to create a shoe not for one person, but for everyone. Even LeBron James wore them during a basketball game to prove that it was truly a shoe that everybody could wear.

I am so extremely proud to recognize Matthew Walzer as a Hastings Star Student. Matthew has overcome diagnosis after diagnosis from doctors across the nation, and has proven that no matter the obstacles, he would not settle for the status quo.

IN RECOGNITION OF ERIC NADEL

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Eric Nadel.

Mr. Nadel was the 2014 recipient of the Ford C. Frick Award, presented annually for excellence in broadcasting by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Currently he is in his 21st year as the lead voice on the Texas Rangers radio broadcasts, which marks his 37th year broadcasting Rangers baseball, the longest tenure of any announcer in the history of the franchise.

Mr. Nadel is a seven-time recipient of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association Texas Sportscaster of the Year Award, and two-time winner of the Associated Press award for best play-by-play in Texas. He was also inducted as the 15th member of the Texas Rangers Baseball Hall of Fame.

Mr. Nadel has spent several off seasons learning Spanish and has taken part in Spanish game broadcasts in numerous Latin American countries. He is the author of three books, including Texas Rangers: The Authorized History, published in 1997. He also is very active in the local music scene, annually presenting a Birthday Benefit Concert at the Kessler Theater.

A 1991 inductee in the Texas Baseball Hall of Fame, Eric and his wife, Jeannie, reside in Dallas with their dog, Kirby, a Yorkie mix. The city of Dallas is lucky to have him.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF PHILIP HAGOPIAN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Philip Hagopian of Madera, California who recently passed away on August 20, 2015 at the age of 64. Philip will be missed greatly by his family, friends, and community.

Mr. Hagopian was born in Fresno, California on November 12, 1950, to Edward and Mar-

garet Hagopian. He spent his early years in Fresno, before moving with his family to Kerman, and eventually settling in Madera. Upon graduating from high school, Philip went on to earn his B.A. in History from the University of California, Davis. After trying his hand at various occupations, he came back home to Madera and joined the family business, farming with his father, when he was 32 years old.

In 1998, Philip married the love of his life, Ms. Carol Ann LeMarr. The following year, his dream of being a father came true when their son, Aram Alexander was born. He was a devoted husband and father, and he truly loved farming in the San Joaquin Valley. Philip had a nurturing heart, and he enjoyed nothing more than to walk out into the fields and appreciate the crops he sowed.

Mr. Hagopian was also dedicated to serving his community. For many years, he provided goods and services, and was active in his agricultural profession. For instance, Philip served on the Madera County Planning Commission, board member for the Raisin Bargaining Association, Trustee of the Board at Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, and he served his country in the United States Army.

Without question, Mr. Hagopian's integrity, honor and long-lasting involvement in the raisin industry made him a reputable man; he was well known, well-liked and shown enormous appreciation by fellow farmers in the Central Valley. Philip worked hard and expected nothing in return. This same generous spirit was evident in Philip's love for his family. I am honored to join his family in celebrating the life of Philip Hagopian. His presence will be dearly missed in our community for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a man of great service and dedication. His memory will live on through his family and be remembered by many in our community. We are all better for having known Mr. Philip Hagopian, a remarkable Californian and Central Valley native.

A TRIBUTE TO MARGARITE GOODENOW

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Margarite Goodenow of the Bluffs Arts Council for receiving an Iowa Governor's Volunteer Award.

Each year Iowa Governor Terry Branstad honors individuals who have exemplified exceptional commitment to their communities through various service related activities. Margarite was granted this prestigious award as she has demonstrated her dedication to serving the Bluffs Arts Council as both a board member and volunteer. Margarite's hard work and dedication to serving others truly embodies our Iowa values.

I applaud Margarite for her commitment to service and giving back to the community. It is an honor to represent civic minded Iowans like her in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating her for receiving this award and wish her nothing but continued success.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,154,955,297.86. We've added \$7,524,277,906,384.78 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FRANK PUMILIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of Mr. Frank Pumilia of Margate, Florida, who sadly passed away on Sunday, August 30th at age 94. Frank was born in Brooklyn, New York and, at an early age, demonstrated a passion for politics and a fervent interest in community service. He attended high school for only half a year before dropping out to support his family. Eventually, Frank became an owner of his own grocery store and later worked as an insurance investor. He retired to Margate, Florida where he assumed a number of leadership positions within local organizations.

Frank served as president of both the Margate Democratic Club and the Margate Association of Condominiums. He also served as a chairman for the Margate Civil Service Board, member of the Broward County Democratic Executive Committee, member of the advisory council of the Alzheimer's Family Center. Frank was a highly regarded community leader. In 2010, he was selected by the Area Agency of Aging of Broward to receive the Broward County Senior Hall of Fame honor.

I offer my deepest condolences to Frank's family. He is survived by his daughter, Louise Ditto, by two sons, John Pumilia and Charles Pumilia, as well as five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Frank's presence will be profoundly missed throughout the Margate community.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay my respects to Frank Pumilia and his family. Frank was a great friend to me throughout the years. His spirit, loving memory, and legacy of outstanding leadership will always live on.

TRIBUTE: ALPHA DELTA KAPPA INTERNATIONAL HONORARY ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Alpha Delta Kappa

International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on its sixty-eight years of dedicated service and proclaim October 2015 as Alpha Delta Kappa Month. Established in 1947, Alpha Delta Kappa's goals have been to establish high standards of education, give recognition to outstanding educators, build a fraternal fellowship among educators, and to promote educational and charitable projects and activities enriching the lives of individuals everywhere.

With a membership of over 33,000 educators representing all fifty U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica and Australia, Alpha Delta Kappa is committed to educational excellence, personal and professional growth and for collectively channeling their energies toward the good of their schools, communities, the teaching profession and the world.

Women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's working force and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to harmony, happiness, and peace among all people.

Over the last two years alone, the members of Alpha Delta Kappa have given altruistically to the communities they serve by raising nearly twelve million dollars and volunteering more than 2 million service hours. Alpha Delta Kappa members also biennially awards nearly two million dollars through its 11 scholarship programs.

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on their many years of unparalleled success and wish them well as they continue to educate our children.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF ANTONIO "TONY" CAMPOS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedication and success of Central Valley almond farmer, Antonio "Tony" Campos. Tony has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to his community and to California agriculture. It is because of his service to the Central Valley that Tony Campos is being honored at the 2015 California Ag One Community Salute.

Tony was born in Orondritz, Spain, a small village in the Pyrenees Mountains. As a teenager, Tony would hear of the opportunities offered in America and how one could establish a better life. When Tony was just 17 years old, he immigrated to the United States with his brothers, and settled in Caruthers, California. It was there where they first began to grow almonds and by 1981, Tony and his brothers had established their almond farm, Campos Brothers Farms Almond Huller. Today, Tony and his wife, Juliet, continue to operate Campos Brothers Farms with their three children Steven, Joseph, and Jeannine. Their commitment and enthusiasm for California agriculture and community values have not faltered.

The almond industry makes significant contributions to the overall success of California's economy. It is responsible for more than \$21

billion in California's economic output and adds about \$11 billion to California's gross state product. The almond industry makes for an active and healthy California economy. Tony Campos and Campos Brothers Farms have done a great deal to enrich California's agriculture and economy.

In addition to their dedication to California agriculture, the Campos family has also dedicated themselves to serving the community. Tony and his family support organizations such as Valley Children's Hospital, Catholic Charities Diocese of Fresno, Basque Cultural Center, and Caruthers High School. Additionally, all of the proceeds raised to honor Tony at the 2015 Ag One Community Salute, will go toward establishing the Ag One Antonio "Tony" Campos endowment that will support both students and programs of the Jordan College at California State University, Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing my longtime friend Tony Campos in the celebration of his achievements as a Central Valley almond farmer and as the 2015 honoree at the Ag One Community Salute. It is with great pride that I thank Tony Campos for his service and lasting contributions to our community and to California agriculture.

WELCOME TO SCENIC MISSOURI CITY, TEXAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Missouri City, Texas for earning a Platinum Level Scenic City Certification! Missouri City residents know full well what a beautiful city they live in and are proud that everybody across Texas agrees.

Scenic Texas, a non-profit organization, awarded the Platinum Level Scenic City Certification to Missouri City for five years. Missouri City is only one of eight cities to receive this top honor and the only city in the Houston area to earn Platinum status. The organization took note of Missouri City's beautiful landscapes, tree-lined streets, and dedication to cultural arts. This certification further demonstrates Missouri City's commitment to improving the quality of life for its residents. We are extremely proud of this growing city!

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Missouri City! Thank you for keeping our little piece of Texas beautiful.

A TRIBUTE TO THE IOWA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION MAR- KETING AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Marketing and Communications Department for receiving five prestigious awards at the American Farm Bu-

reau Federation's annual Strategic Policy, Advocacy, Resources and Communications Conference.

Each year the American Farm Bureau Federation gives out awards at their Strategic Policy, Advocacy, Resources and Communications Conference to recognize select Farm Bureau Federation teams that excel in their outreach and communication to the public. The conference is designed to incentivize strategic communication, aligning the organization's platforms around important subjects and initiatives that are aimed at creating better policy. The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation team received the following five awards: Best Newspaper, Best News or Feature Series, Best Blog, Best Social Media Campaign, and Best Promotional or Education Video.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation Marketing and Communications Department demonstrates the rewards of hard work and dedication. Their efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent this valued Iowa organization in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating this team on their achievements, and I wish them nothing but continued success.

IN MEMORY OF ANGELEAN "ANGIE" CLARK GLASS OF HAL- LANDALE BEACH, FLORIDA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an esteemed teacher, community leader, and personal friend, Mrs. Angelean "Angie" Clark Glass. Angie was born on January 3, 1937 in Hallandale Beach, Florida. She grew up as the first of four children born into the glorious union of the late Robert "Willard" Clark and Hazel Mabel Taylor Clark.

Angie's early accomplishments included being the star basketball player at Lanier Elementary-Junior High School in Hallandale. She later went on to attend and graduate from Booker T. Washington High School in Miami, Florida in 1955. She received her Bachelor's of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) in Tallahassee, Florida in June, 1959. Angie pursued additional matriculation at Barry University in Miami, Florida.

After graduation, Angie began her remarkable career at Sheridan Hills Elementary School in Hollywood, Florida. For 44 years, she taught at Sheridan Hills Elementary School, shaping the lives of generations of children and remaining at the school as various principals came and went. Her dedication to the school came from her unwavering faith in her students, many of whom were inspired by her kindness and selflessness for her community.

As a devout Christian, Angie served as a member and was considered a pillar of both St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Hallandale, Florida and St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Hollywood, Florida. Aside from serving faithfully on the Vestry and Parish Council, she also coordinated all social activities and served as treasurer of the Church's True Fund.

Angie sponsored dinners for church members every third Sunday of the month and provided personal, financial assistance to aid the church's less fortunate members. She coordinated food and clothing drives and served as Episcopal Youth Counselor and Senior Warden. For over seventy years, she remained loyal to the church and worked tirelessly wherever she was needed. Four words encapsulate her life at the church and her life as a Christian: faith, devotion, generosity, and perseverance.

As an active member of her community, Angie served on committees in Hallandale Beach, ensuring many projects and activities were effectively executed. She was one of the founders of the Community Civic Association and was heavily involved with MLK Parade and Scholarship fundraising. In 2013, Angie's efforts did not go unnoticed. She was selected by the Human Services Advisory Board for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award.

Friends and family knew Angie as someone who was a wonderlust at heart. Although she did not get to fulfill her dream of seeing the Seven Wonders of the World, she visited London, Alaska, the Grand Canyon, the Canadian Rockies and the Bahamas, the birthplace of her parents. When Angie was not traveling, she was giving back. She relished in the beauty and changes of the City of Hallandale Beach. She proudly supported the act of giving her time, talents, and money to the cause of freedom, civil justice, and equality in the Hallandale Beach community. It was always her desire to make the community a better and more positive place to live.

Throughout her illness, she showed the same courage, dignity, concern for loved ones, and grace as shown throughout her life. On July 26, 2015, Angelean, a dedicated parent, teacher and community leader left this world at 4:50 a.m. Precious memories remain with those she loved and touched.

Angie is survived by her husband Rudolph "Rudy" Glass, her beloved son Troy Andrews, her brother Leon Clark, a cherished granddaughter Toya MacDonald, a great grandson, Tomas Martin, a sister-in-law, Mrs. Rowena Willson, and devoted brother-in-law, Thomas Glass. Her nieces Rhonda Merritt, Sonya Davis, Tangela Culpepper, Kamalie Culpepper, Robbie Clark, Ashley Roach Gardiner, and grand nieces Audrey and Olivia Gardiner, Markita Loisy, Rose Herard, Jasmine Herard, and Brianna Hyman. Her nephews Dr. Dwight Wilson, Thomas Glass, Jr., Steve Fisher and Fernando Loisy.

Of her extended siblings, six step brothers, sisters, their mates and children: Dan Peoples, James Peoples, Deborah Ellis, Jacquelyn P. Riley, Gail Glass Alrich, Jacquelyn Glass, Linda Glass Bell, Alfred Glass Bell, Alfred Glass, Tracy Glass, Terry Glass, a goddaughter, Trina Stafford, the clergy members and family members and families of St. Ann's, St. Thomas, and St. James-in-the-Hills Episcopal Churches in Hallandale and Hollywood, Florida. Other extended family members—They Taylors, a devoted and compassionate friend and godmother of Troy Andrews, Maureen S. Bethel, other friends throughout the years—Mrs. Jacquelyn Singleton, Mrs. Joyce Langston, Mrs. Beverly Williams, Mrs. Ulee Major, Booker T. Washington High School Classmates of 1955, and several cousins, associates and business partners.

Mr. Speaker. I once again want to honor Mrs. Angelean "Angie" Clark Glass for her dedication and commitment to education, her community, and to her family. She was a kind human being whose legacy and memory will always live on. I was truly proud to call Angie my friend and will miss her dearly.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LOUIS STOKES, CIVIL RIGHTS CHAMPION, WORLD WAR II VETERAN, ADVOCATE FOR THE DISADVANTAGED, OHIO'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN CONGRESSMAN, EXCEPTIONAL LEGISLATOR, AND BELOVED MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to speak in praise of Louis Stokes, one of the greatest and most respected Members ever to serve in this body, who died on Tuesday, August 18, 2015, at his home near Cleveland, Ohio at the age of 90.

It is not unusual in these days for commentators and politicians to talk of something called "American Exceptionalism."

But what is meant by the term?

Mr. Speaker, one way to understand the term: America is exceptional because it produces and finds persons like Louis Stokes and affords them the opportunity to utilize their talents to the fullest in the service of their community and their country.

Think about it: in what other nation does a little African American boy born in 1925 on the east side of Cleveland and raised in the Outhwaite Homes housing project by a mother who worked as a domestic go on to become a lawyer who argues and wins a landmark criminal justice reform case (Terry v. Ohio, 392 U.S. 1 (1968)) in the United States Supreme Court; become the first African American elected to Congress; is selected to chair the powerful Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, the Select Committee on Assassinations, and an Appropriations Subcommittee responsible for more than \$90 billion annually in federal outlays?

Yes, America is an exceptional nation and Louis Stokes was an exceptional human being.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes was born on February 23, 1925, in Cleveland, Ohio, to Charles and Louise Cinthy (nee Stone) Stokes.

When he was three years old, his father, who worked in a laundromat, died leaving young Louis and his younger brother, Carl, to be raised by their mother, who worked as a domestic for affluent families in the wealthy Cleveland suburbs.

Louis Stokes' maternal grandmother played a critical role in his life because she took care of the Stokes boys while their mother was at work and instilled in them "the idea that work with your hands is the hard way of doing things" and encouraged them over and over "to learn to use their heads."

Louis Stokes took the advice to heart so after attending Cleveland's Central High

School and serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, he returned home to attend what is now Case Western Reserve University on the G.I. Bill at night while working during the day for the Veterans Administration and the Department of the Treasury.

After graduating from college in two years where he excelled as a student, Louis Stokes was accepted for admission to Cleveland Marshall School of Law, from which he graduated in 1953; three years later, his brother Carl would also graduate from Cleveland Marshall School of Law and the two of them would go on to form the law firm of Stokes & Stokes specializing in the areas of civil rights and criminal law.

In 1964, the Supreme Court decided the landmark case of Reynolds v. Sims, 377 U.S. 533 (1964), which established the principle of "one person, one vote" governing the reapportionment of legislative boundaries.

The following year, working on behalf of the local branch of the NAACP, Louis Stokes led the legal challenge to the Ohio legislature's congressional redistricting, which had the effect of diluting African American voting strength in Cleveland.

The challenge was unsuccessful in the federal district court but undeterred, Louis Stokes, joined by Charles Lucas, an African American Republican, successfully appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, which in an order handed down in 1967 ruled the redistricting plan unconstitutional and ordered it redrawn, resulting in the creation of Ohio's first majority-black district, the 21st Congressional District of Ohio.

Ironically, Louis Stokes would defeat his one-time ally Charles Lucas to win that seat in November 1968, capturing 75% of the vote, the closest of his 15 successful elections to the U.S. House of Representatives.

For the next 30 years, from 1969 to 1999, Congressman Stokes tirelessly fought for his constituents in Cleveland and for the best interests of the people of Ohio and the United States.

Louis Stokes, a founding member and Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus from 1972–74, was the epitome of a public servant.

In his second term in Congress, he won appointment to the powerful House Appropriations Committee, where he served for 28 years, later becoming the second African American "Cardinal" in history when he was selected to chair the VA, HUD, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Because of the esteem in which he was held by his colleagues and the leadership, Louis Stokes would also later be selected to chair the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Select Committee charged with investigating the assassinations of President Kennedy and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

As Chairman of the House Ethics Committee and a person of unquestioned integrity, Louis Stokes oversaw the committee's investigation of the corruption scandal known as ABSCAM in 1979–80, which eventually led to convictions of a senator and six House members.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes perhaps is best known for the national attention he attracted in 1987 as a member of the House Select Committee to Investigate Covert Arms Transactions with Iran ("Iran-Contra"), the scandal involving the illegal sale of military weapons to

the Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran to generate money to fund the illegal contra war in Nicaragua.

In response to the claim by Colonel Oliver North that he acted out of patriotism in engineering the illegal weapons sales and diverting the proceeds to fund the contras, a stern Louis Stokes lectured the misguided Colonel North on the rule of law, the true meaning of patriotism, and, in the process American exceptionalism:

I suppose that what has been most disturbing to me about your testimony is the ugly part. In fact, it has been more than ugly. It has been chilling, and, in fact, frightening. I'm not just talking about your part in this, but the entire scenario, about government officials who plotted and conspired, who set up a straw man, a fall guy. Officials who lied, misrepresented and deceived. Officials who planned to superimpose upon our government a layer outside of our government, shrouded in secrecy and only accountable to the conspirators.

Colonel, as I sit here this morning looking at you in your uniform, I cannot help but remember that I wore the uniform of this country in World War II in a segregated Army. I wore it as proudly as you do, even though our government required black and white soldiers in the same Army to live, sleep, eat and travel separate and apart, while fighting and dying for our country. But because of the rule of law, today's servicemen in America suffer no such indignity.

My mother, a widow, raised two boys. She had an eighth-grade education. She was a domestic worker who scrubbed floors. One son became the first black mayor of a major American city. The other sits today as chairman of a House intelligence committee. Only in America, Col. North. Only in America. And while I admire your love for America, I hope that you will never forget that others too love America just as much as you do and that others will die for America, just as quick as you will.

Louis Stokes never wavered in his belief that America could fulfill the promise of its Founders or his dedication to the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, stating:

I'm going to keep on denouncing the inequities of this system, but I'm going to work within it. To go outside the system would be to deny myself—to deny my own existence. I've beaten the system. I've proved it can be done—so have a lot of others.

But the problem is that a black man has to be extra special to win in this system. Why should you have to be a super black to get someplace? That's what's wrong in the society. The ordinary black man doesn't have the same chance as the ordinary white man does.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes' commitment to fairness and equal treatment started long before he was elected to Congress.

As a lawyer for the NAACP, he brought anti-discrimination lawsuits, represented demonstrators arrested in anti-discrimination marches and sit-ins, and took the cases of poor persons charged with crimes.

One of those criminal cases he took is known to every lawyer in America and appreciated by every person who cherishes the protections guaranteed by the 4th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

I am speaking of the famous case of *Terry v. Ohio*, 392 U.S. 1 (1968) won by Louis Stokes in which the Supreme Court held that a police officer could "stop and frisk" an individual only where he could articulate a reason-

able basis that the person was, or was about to be, engaged in criminal activity.

As a result of *Terry v. Ohio*, a police officer has the right to stop, frisk, and question an individual he reasonably suspects to be engaged in criminal activity, but cannot seize items from that person if the pat down of the suspect's outer clothing does not reveal any weapons posing a threat to the officer's safety.

Because of Louis Stokes' exceptional advocacy in *Terry v. Ohio*, the right of every individual to secure from unreasonable searches and seizures was preserved while at the same not impeding the ability of law enforcement officers to perform their duties safely.

Mr. Speaker, every citizen benefits from this ruling and communities that have a history of being harassed by law enforcement protected by the Constitution from arbitrary and abusive treatment by law enforcement.

But the fight for a criminal justice system that respects the rights of all persons is not over.

That is why I am proud to be the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations and a leader in the effort to reform the criminal justice system so that all persons receive fair and equal treatment regardless of their race, gender, religion, or national origin.

Louis Stokes fought tirelessly to fulfill the promise of the 14th Amendment that "no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

It is a fight I am proud to continue today.

Mr. Speaker, Louis Stokes will be mourned by friends and colleagues on both sides of the aisle who had the privilege to serve alongside him.

He was a mentor to me and I will always remember his commanding presence and cherish the assistance he provided me and the example he set for new Members to follow.

My thoughts and prayers are with his Jay, Louis' beloved wife of 55 years; to his children, Shelly, Louis, Angela, and Lorene; his grandchildren; and the untold thousands of persons who touched and whose lives were touched by one of Cleveland's greatest sons.

Mr. Speaker I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of Louis Stokes, an exceptional American, and the gentleman from Ohio who served in this chamber for three decades with honor, integrity, and distinction.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
FORMER WASHINGTON STATE
SENATOR BOB MORTON, A
LIFELONG ADVOCATE FOR
NORTHEASTERN WASHINGTON

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, in August, Washington State lost one of our best, former Washington State Senator Bob Morton. Today, I rise to celebrate his life and

the legacy he leaves behind in Northeastern Washington.

Before winning election to the Washington State House of Representatives, Bob was a farmer, flew as a bush pilot in Alaska and cloud seeder in Spokane, and was a logger in Northeastern Washington. Bob was also a minister and helped perform my wedding ceremony to my husband, Brian.

In 1990, Senator Morton was elected to the Washington State House of Representatives, where he served until his appointment to the Washington State Senate in 1994. In the Senate, Senator Morton was a tireless champion for the 7th legislative district in Northeastern Washington, focusing on issues closest to his constituents and serving as Chair of the Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee and Chair of the Agriculture & Environment Committee. He believed in the people and the way of life we enjoy in Northeastern Washington. He was most comfortable in cowboy boots and a cowboy hat. He passionately fought for our priorities which on one occasion, led him to be graveled down by the President of the Senate for blowing a railroad whistle on the Senate floor when he thought he was being railroaded by legislation.

Ahead of his time to promote forest health, Senator Morton championed the idea of thinning the trees in our forests in order that they may be less susceptible to catastrophic fire. He also spearheaded efforts to develop a statewide plan to preserve the health of forests across Washington State. Senator Morton also advocated to protect water rights for agriculture use and to defend livestock from wild animal predation.

In 2006, Senator Morton was instrumental in passing historical water legislation that sought out new water supplies through the construction of new storage facilities and conservation measures. During this time, he was also known for carrying around a seven foot tall pole that depicted the flow of the Columbia River. At the bill signing ceremony, Senator Morton presented this pole to Governor Gregoire as a gift.

Senator Morton was also passionate about compiling and distributing an annual salmon report. He was committed to protecting our way of life even if it meant proposing to split the state in two.

Senator Morton was extremely well liked and respected, not only by his constituents and staff, but by Senators on both sides of the aisle. A man of strong convictions, he epitomized a perfect gentleman, respectful of all viewpoints and always ready with just the right words to say.

On a personal note, Bob was my mentor, a role model, an inspiration, and constant encouragement. As Senator, he was a tremendous example both in his devotion to God and to his community. As a young college graduate, I had the distinct honor of working for Bob as his legislative aide while he served in the Washington State House of Representatives. Bob took a chance on me—he believed in me and I will forever be grateful for his support and encouragement.

I rise to thank Senator Bob Morton for his years of dedication and service to Northeastern Washington. Bob lived his life to demonstrate God's love. Whenever I see someone with a cowboy hat walking the halls of Congress, I will fondly remember State Senator Bob Morton, his love for God, and for people.

My thoughts and prayers remain with his wife, Linda, his children, and other family members and friends. They don't come any better than Bob Morton.

BICENTENNIAL OF ALLEN COUNTY, KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bicentennial of Allen County, Kentucky, located in the First Congressional District. This momentous occasion not only celebrates the rich history of Allen County, but the many thousands of residents who over the years have made it a vibrant and thriving community.

Allen County was formed in 1815, the fifty-seventh county in the Commonwealth, and named in honor of Colonel John Allen, a hero of the War of 1812. Soldiers made their way into the hilly terrain of Allen County during the Civil War, and Dumont Hill, which currently serves as a park, remains a link to this past.

The area's largest source of tourism came about in 1964 when the Port Oliver Dam on the Barren River was completed, creating the 2,187-acre Barren River Lake State Resort Park. Aside from Barren River Lake, Allen County offers tourists a wide range of activities throughout the year. From summer concert series to one of the area's largest Christmas parades, Allen County boasts many active people and organizations and is always eager to showcase its recently revitalized downtown. Jacksonian Days, held in the fall, is a weekend street festival revolving around the old hotel, long rumored to have been a stop on President Andrew Jackson's commute to and from his home in Nashville to Washington, D.C.

This progressive community offers small-town hospitality with access to metropolitan amenities. It also has a thriving industrial base, including Halton Company and Sumitomo. Dollar General was founded in the area over 75 years ago and remains a leading employer today, along with the J.M. Smucker Company, whose plant produces in excess of one million sandwiches per day, making Allen County the largest peanut butter and jelly sandwich producer in the nation.

To commemorate the county's bicentennial, community leaders and residents of Allen County have planned several events to educate Kentuckians about the history of Allen County and celebrate its residents and culture. One such event was a one-act play entitled, "Allen County: A Work in Progress." The play featured familiar characters remembering the people, places, and events of Allen County's past. A free live concert was also held in July featuring Scottsville's own Sweetwater and starring country superstars Diamond Rio on the public square.

It is my privilege to represent Allen County in the U.S. House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues in Congress will join me in celebrating this community and its residents.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JIM
AND LEE VANOY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize my friends, Jim and Lee Vano, on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Jim and Lee met on a blind date in July of 1965 and less than six weeks later eloped and were married on August 26, 1965. Because of the Vietnam War draft rules, many couples were married on that date.

Together Jim and Lee raised two boys, Van and Ben. They are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren, Courtney, Taylor, Blake, and Alex.

The Vano family made their home in Opelika, Alabama, for the last 45 years. Jim is retired from the Uniroyal Tire plant and Lee, after serving many years as a church secretary, currently serves as the county voter registrar.

They enjoy Bible studies, doing home repair for the elderly, and traveling.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing this couple a very Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary.

HONORING THE 24TH ANNIVERSARY OF
MACEDONIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Macedonian-American community in honor of their homeland's Independence Day. The people of the Republic of Macedonia voted on September 8, 1991, to officially gain independence from the former Yugoslavia. By voting for independence, the people decided that it was time for their country to forge its own path and to begin a new era in their history. This 24th anniversary of their independence provides us all an opportunity to recognize the Macedonian-American community's significant contributions within the United States.

Since 2001, Macedonia has been one of the staunchest allies of the United States in the War on Terror. Macedonia was the fourth and fifth largest contributor of troops, per capita, in the mission in Afghanistan. Macedonian troops guarded American troops at the compound in Kabul. And, Macedonia welcomed 50,000 and 400,000 refugees during the wars in Bosnia and Kosovo, respectively. For a country of little over two million, Macedonia has done its fair share and deserves to be in NATO. On that note, I ask that you join me, and 34 colleagues, in cosponsoring H. Res. 56 in support of Macedonia's NATO accession at the Warsaw Summit in 2016.

This month will also mark the 20th year of full diplomatic relations between the United States and Macedonia. With American support, Macedonia has become a model of stability in a region known for ethnic strife and

tension. Recently, Macedonia has been struck with the unprecedented refugee crisis facing Europe, as thousands of migrants and refugees have fled war-torn countries in the Middle East and North Africa. This year alone, an estimated 70,000 migrants have traveled through Macedonia, and the Macedonian government is attempting to organize an orderly response to the influx of people, including organizing daily trains to ferry migrants from the southern to the northern border. If the partnership between the United States and Macedonia is to remain strong, the country needs our continued support. I also use this opportunity to urge Macedonia's leaders to continue strengthening their institutions and reforming its democracy and rule of law.

As a way to recognize and strengthen this partnership, I started the first Congressional Caucus on Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans. This Caucus is a bipartisan group of members of Congress dedicated to maintaining and strengthening a positive and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and the Republic of Macedonia, as well as advocating for the concerns and interests of the Macedonian community in the United States.

Michigan's 10th District has one of the largest populations of Macedonian-Americans in the Nation. Over Labor Day weekend, St. Mary Macedonian Orthodox Cathedral in Sterling Heights, Michigan hosted the 41st Annual American-Canadian Macedonian Orthodox Convention, bringing thousands of guests from throughout the U.S. and Canada to my District. I would like to acknowledge their contributions to our District and our State, and I look forward to continuing that relationship as we deal with the problems facing our great Nation.

Again, congratulations to all of Macedonian heritage for their achievements as we commemorate the anniversary of Macedonia's independence.

RECOGNIZING WAYNE WATTS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Wayne Watts, General Counsel and Senior Executive Vice President of AT&T. Mr. Watts served a total of 32 years at AT&T, starting as a rookie lawyer in the litigation department of what was then Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. As he enters retirement, it is fitting that this body honors Mr. Watts and his significant career that was embodied by his commitment to improving the Dallas community and beyond.

Mr. Watts was born in Abilene and raised in the blue-collar Dallas neighborhood of Oak Cliff. He went on to receive an undergraduate degree from the University of Texas-Arlington, and a Juris Doctorate from the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University. Throughout his career, his affection for Dallas and all of its people only grew.

In his role at AT&T, Mr. Watts was directly involved in negotiating dozens of mergers and acquisitions with a combined value of nearly \$250 billion. These negotiations saw Southwestern Bell transform from the smallest of the

Baby Bell companies into AT&T, the world's largest communications business.

In addition to his professional successes, Mr. Watts was committed to enriching his community. He gained national fame for influencing law firms to hire and promote more women and minorities. He constantly pushed his legal staff of thousands of global lawyers to do more pro bono and public service work. In addition to being a member of the advisory boards of the SMU Dedman School of Law, the Salvation Army's Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex Command, and the Development Board at the University of Texas at Arlington, he serves on the board of Texas Access to Justice, a non-profit which provides funding for poor and indigent people who need legal services.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Watts' leadership has brought the business community and the greater community of Dallas and the United States resounding success. I recognize Mr. Watts as a great businessman, but more importantly, as a great American who devoted his career to expanding opportunities for others.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN
LOUIS STOKES

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of a good friend, Congressman Louis Stokes. He was the voice of the people of Cleveland, Ohio in the House of Representatives for 30 years and will be missed by every person he touched. Although I never had the privilege of serving with Lou, he was a dear friend to my husband and they did much good work together on many critical issues, including civil rights. I will always remember him for his thoughtfulness, graciousness, and integrity.

Born on February 23, 1925 in Cleveland, Congressman Stokes revealed the true nature of his character at an early age when he started shining shoes and clerking at an Army/Navy store to supplement the income of his widowed mother. A man dedicated to public service, he served our nation honorably in the U.S. Army and continued his service when he returned home through working at the VA and Treasury Department offices in Cleveland. He

also made a name for himself as a civil rights lawyer while working for the Cleveland NAACP, and ran for Congress successfully in 1968.

In Congress, Lou was a strong voice for minorities and the disadvantaged. A founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, Congressman Stokes served as Chairman of the group for two consecutive terms beginning in 1972. Through his seat on the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Stokes advanced civil rights in this country by fighting against segregation and in support of affirmative action and fair housing. His legacy on these issues can still be felt today.

Congress would do good to follow the example that Congressman Stokes set for all of us—that what matters most in this body is that you put your head down, do what is right for your constituents, and vote your conscience. The thing I remember most about Lou is that he never forgot where he came from and always put the people of Cleveland first. My thoughts and prayers are with the Stokes family during this difficult time. It is my hope that all members of this Congress will be inspired by the great example that Congressman Louis Stokes set for all of us and by the contributions he made to this country.